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SPRINGFIELD, JANUARY 3, 1851.

☞Several members of the legislature have already arrived, and we are gratified to learn, that nearly, if not quite all of them are in favor of a speedy repeal of the Wilmot proviso instructions of the last legislature. There can be no doubt that the action of the present legislature, in that behalf, will be in accordance with the sentiment and wishes of our people, which were unquestionably violated by the instructions in question.

No one familiar with the views of the masses of our people, can doubt that at least nineteen-twentieths of the voters are in favor of the compromise enactments of the last session of congress; yet our state [illegible] as opposed to at least a part of [illegible], the fugitive slave law, in consequence of those legislative resolutions. We hope no time will be lost in removing this erroneous impression, and placing us in a right light before the nation and the world.

The crisis is important, and Illinois must not be wanting in the great work of union and harmony.

☞A poor corset maker, out of work and starving, thus vented her miserable complaint:

"Shame that I should be without bread; I that have stayed the stomachs of thousands."

G. P. R. JAMES.—The Philadelphia Bulletin declares this gentleman's lectures an entire failure. They are so verbose that he never gets to the cream of his subject, but wears out his audience with minute and familiar detail, giving them neither originality nor point.

☞The murderer of Chobaneau, who was recently killed in Detroit, has been arrested.

☞Jenny Lind, it is stated, talks of making the United states her home.

☞Hon. Neil Brown, Minister at Russia, has written home, it is said, that he shall ask to be recalled next summer.

☞Gen. Rusk, one of the United States senators from Texas, is said to be lying dangerously ill at Wheeling, Va.

From Washington.

A dispatch dated Dec. 30, says that on that day Mr. Douglas offered a petition from Wise, the balloon man, asking congress to make an appropriation of $20,000, to enable him to make experiments with balloons—after debate it was referred to the committee of naval affairs.

Mr. Benton introduced a bill to accelerate the sale of public lands—to pay the public debt—to extinguish government titles to lands within the states—to grant lands to actual settlers, and to cede the public land to the states in which they lie.

Mr. Benton offered a resolution that the secretary of the navy report on the expediency of transferring the coast survey from the treasury to the navy department.

A message was received from the president relative to the resolution offered by Mr. Cass, calling for the correspondence of the state department with the Austrian charge, in relation to Hungarian affairs. The correspondence is very long, and was read.

☞L. J. S. TURNEY, esq., has retired from the Shawneetown Advocate. WM. EDWARDS & SONS succeed him. The paper is published weekly and tri-weekly. The retiring editor says the paper is not sufficiently patronized to justify him in remaining in it. We trust his successors will have better fortune.

☞The "citizens' supper" given at the court-house, on New Year's night, for the benefit of the poor, was well attended, and the proceeds will be most acceptable to the destitute, this inclement weather. It is to be hoped that these public charities will not preclude private liberality. The honest but unfortunate poor, ought not to be permitted to suffer in this land of unsurpassed abundance.

COPYING LAWS.—The bids for copying the laws, resolutions and journals, of the next general assembly, were yesterday opened at the state department, as required by law. The contracts for such copying were awarded to the lowest and most competent bidders, as follows:

The copying of the laws and joint resolutions to J. F. Gray and E. H. Hosee, at *four* cents per hundred words.

The copying of senate journal to A. G. Brooks, at *four and a half* cents per hundred words.

The copying of house journal to Enoch Moore, at *four* cents per hundred words.

There were *nineteen* bids in all, from different quarters of the state.

☞When it is noon in New Orleans or St. Louis, it is one o'clock at Baltimore, as there is a difference of an hour for every fifteen degrees of longitude. Hence, a telegraphic dispatch from Baltimore at noon, reached New Orleans at 11 o'clock, a. m., being an hour ahead of time. So it is in sailing around the globe, if we go one way we lose, and by the other we gain a day.

Missouri Legislature.

The action of this body will be interesting to most of our readers. Telegraphic dispatches from Jefferson City, dated the 30th ult., say that the election of officers in the senate, there was a coalition between the whigs and Bentonites.

The senate was called to order by the lieutenant governor, Thomas L. Price, when thirty-one senators answered to their names. Messrs. Leslie and Flournoy being absent.

The following officers were then elected: W. C. Minor, (Bentonite,) secretary; R. B. Rees, (whig,) assistant secretary; John McDearmon (democrat,) engrossing clerk; Mr. Jackson, (democrat,) enrolling clerk; Mr. Myers, (whig,) sergeant-at-arms; Mr. Vanover, (Bentonite,) doorkeeper.

There was a coalition between the whigs and Bentonites in the election in the senate.

Jones, of Cooper, a professed anti, bolted, and voted for Minor.

In the house of representatives, the Benton and anti-Benton caucusses were in session at the same time in separate rooms. The Benton men proposed to the antis the following writing: "The committee propose the following questions, by authority of the Benton democratic meeting, held this morning in the register's office.

Will the anti-Benton members of the house of representatives, consent to meet their democratic brethren of the same house of the opposite wing of the democracy, pursuant to the notice of Saturday last, or is it true as represented, that the anti-Benton members have declared that they will not meet the Benton democracy in convention, for the purpose of organizing?

To which the antics returned the following answer:

Resolved, that the committee appointed by the democratic members of the house of representatives, be instructed to report the following answer to the Benton democracy, to the interrogatories submitted to this meeting.

That whenever the Benton democracy shall abandon Col. Benton as their candidate for U. S. senator, and their support of his appeal from the instructions of the last general assembly of Missouri, and the principles maintained by him relative to the subject of slavery, then this meeting will, with great pleasure, join all democrats in carrying out the great fundamental principles of the democratic party, as set forth in the Baltimore platform of 1844, and 1848, provided they recognize the right of instruction by the legislature to their senators in congress.

Which was communicated to the Bentonites, who answered that they had no reply to make.—No further communication passed between them. The antics then nominated Col. F. Kennett for speaker, and the Bentonites Capt. John D. Stephenson, of Franklin, for the same office. Watkins, of Cape Girardeau, was nominated for speaker. Mr. Kennett, of Washington, and Mr. Stephenson, of Franklin, were also in nomination.—On the 1st ballot, the vote stood—for Watkins, (whig) 49; Kennett, (anti-Benton) 28; Stephenson, 37. The second ballot: Watkins 50, Kennett 29, Stephenson 40. Third ballot—Watkins 50, Kennett, 30, Stephenson 41. Fourth ballot—Watkins 51, Kennett 29, Stephenson 41. Fifth ballot—Watkins 52, Kennett 28, Stephenson 41, [illegible] 1.

ENTERPRISE AND ITS REWARD.—The Messrs. Ward, of Detroit, the Advertiser of that city says, have realized one hundred thousand dollars, nett profits, on their steamboats during the season now closing. Fourteen years ago, one old *square-toed* schooner constituted Capt. Ward's only interest upon the Lakes.

DEATHS IN CALIFORNIA.—Nearly two columns of the New York Tribune are occupied with a list of deaths in California, between the 31st of October and the 15th of November. We have run over the list, and find the names of the following persons from this state:

Oct. 31—H. H. Melburn, aged 43, typhoid fever; D. Johnson, Bristol, Kendall co.

Nov. 5—A. Ferguson, 57, erysipelas.

Nov. 6—R. Ferguson, 27.

Nov. 8—Hiram Stockholm, 30, dysentery.

Oct. 25—Jas. W. Campbell, cholera; H. Humpff, fever.

Oct. 26—Dr. T. N. P. Whitlock, cholera.

Oct. 27—Martin Rose, cholera.

Oct. 30—Samuel Holmes, fever.

——S. B. Williams, diarrhœa.

Oct. 31—J. Wilson, cholera; John M. Mocross, G. Meger, 22, diarrhœa.

Nov. 1—Nathan K. Patterson, cholera; Olivia Emma Aldrich, 2, cholera.

Nov. 1—Wm. Hawks, 40, Lake co., cholera.

Nov. 4—A. M. Houghton, 26, diarrhœa; James Clayton, diarrhœa.

Nov. 5—David Baoz, 40, cholera; Wm. Kingsbury, 42, do.

Nov. 6—A. B. Bregie, cholera; Lawrence Wolfe, 28, diarrhœa.

Nov. 7—Theo. Steinegal, 18 months, diarrhœa.

Nov. 9—Mr. Waterhouse, 33, diarrhœa; Samuel H. Pardon, 24, Randolph co., cholera.

Nov. 11—Camp. Covey, 40, congestive fever; S. W. Wilson, Crawford co., cholera.

☞The cabinet are considering and designating the papers in the different states in the Union to which the patronage of the government is to be given. So says the correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune.

SHERIFF OF KANE COUNTY.—The governor has decided Mr. Yates ineligible for re-election, having held the office for the previous term, and has ordered a special election, for the 11th of January.—*Democrat.*

The friends of *Gov. French* we believe, never claimed for his excellency a very extraordinary degree of intelligence, and his decision in regard to Mr. YATES eligibility above referred to, effects that gentleman's case about as much as if he had decided that the same man should not be in the moon, two quarters in succession.

The proper mode of procedure would be by *quo warranto* from a court having jurisdiction, and should the decision of this tribunal decide adverse to Mr. Yates, and the facts be submitted to the governor, he could *then*, and not before, legally order a new election.—*Chicago Journal.*

No one but the merest pettifogger would be guilty of such a statement of law, as to "the proper mode of procedure."

The Revised Statutes (chapter 99, section 14,) provides that "if any person, shall hereafter be elected sheriff in any county in this state who has been sheriff of any county of this state, and who shall, at the time of his election, be in arrear to the state or county for taxes, or other public money, *such person shall not be commissioned*; and where any such former sheriff shall be elected, and shall not, within thirty days after his election, produce to the governor a *quietus* from the proper officer of his county, and from the Auditor of public accounts, for all moneys or revenue, with which he shall be at the time chargeable, or a certificate of his having tendered the amount, *the governor shall order a new election*, as in case of neglect to qualify or refusal to serve."

Now the facts are simply these: Mr. Yates has been sheriff of Kane county during the last term of two years—he was in arrears to both state and county for taxes and failed to produce a *quietus* from the proper officers. This being the case, the governor, as required by law, has ordered a new election to be held on the 11th inst. His duty in the premises was plain and simple, admitting of no doubt.

What, then, becomes of the Journal's wise suggestions about *writs of quo warranto*?

We advise that paper to be a little more cautious when he undertakes to arraign others for a want of "an extraordinary degree of intelligence."

CENSUS OF MAINE.—The complete census of Maine shows a population of 583,096, an increase of 83,105 in ten years, or 16.6 per cent. in that time.

OHIO.—In the house of representatives of Ohio, Mr. Pow, from the committee on Federal Relations, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That our senators in congress be instructed and our representatives be requested to use all honorable means to obtain an immediate repeal of the act of congress usually styled the "fugitive slave law," approved Sept. 18, 1850.

The resolution was laid on the table—38 to 33.

In the affirmative were 29 democrats, and 9 whigs. In the negative, were 7 democrats, 21 whigs, and 5 abolitionists.

DIFFICULTY WITH AUSTRIA.—The letters of our Washington correspondents, by last night's Southern mail, state that the Austrian Charge, (Mr. McCurdy) successor of Col. Webb, is there, but has not obtained his orders yet. Mr. Hulsemann, the Charge from Austria, it is also said, acts as if there was mischief brewing. Independently of these intimations, we have similar hints from other quarters.

Rumor says there is a *flare up* between the American secretary of state and Mr. Hulsemann; that the latter has been demeaning himself discourteously; in consequence of the kind treatment we have given the Hungarian refugees, officially and unofficially,—that, therefore, Mr. McCurdy will not be instructed to go out of the country until Mr. Hulsemann renders something of an apology for hard and harsh words; and that these are the causes of the delay.

Mr Cass indirectly alluded to this difficulty in some remarks made on Wednesday, in the Senate, and congratulated himself that the government was doing what he wished to do by resolution—that is, ceasing to have diplomatic intercourse with Austria. In a day or two we shall probably have more information on the matter.—*N. Y. Express.*

A TALL ONE.—The Boston Traveller notices the arrival from St. John, of a young man seven feet four and a half inches high, fifty-six inches circumference round the breast, and weighing three hundred and fifty-six pounds. He is a Scotchman, aged nineteen, but for some time past a resident of Nova Scotia.

SPRINGFIELD, JANUARY 4, 1851.

The Tariff.

In the *Senate*, Mr. Clay presented memorials from citizens of the states of Virginia and Pennsylvania, in favor of a modification of the present tariff. One of the memorials was from a citizen of Albemarle county, Virginia, representing that he had invested a large sum in a cotton factory, and that under the present rate of duties he could not carry on the business without loss.

Mr. Clay made the following remarks on presenting these petitions:

I will here take occasion to say, Mr. President, that I do hope that now, as there is apparent calmness upon the surface of public affairs—a calmness which I hope is real and will remain, without disturbing the deliberations of congress—for one, I shall be extremely delighted if the subject of the tariff of '46 be taken up in a liberal, kind, and national spirit, not with any purpose of reviving those *high rates of protection which, at former periods of our history, were established from various causes, and sometimes from* SINISTER CAUSES, but to look deliberately at the operations of the tariff of '46; and without disturbing its essential provisions, I should like that consideration be given to the question whether the prevention of the frauds and the great abuses, of the existence of which there can be no earthly doubt, cannot be reached by some suitable legislation. *In a few instances perhaps it may be necessary to make the measure of protection somewhat greater than that which is extended to manufacturing interests generally*, and perhaps it can be done without prejudice and without injury to the general interests of the country.

The "liberal, kind and national spirit" which has heretofore prevailed among whigs in regard to the tariff has consisted of a grasping policy whereby the agricultural interest have been compelled to pay an enormous tribute to a comparatively small class of immense wealth, and that, too, besides supporting the government. And now, if the tariffites have concluded to come down a peg in their exorbitant demands, it is because they know the people have become familiar with the unjust and oppressive whig system of duties, having its birth in "sinister causes," and operating in all its tendencies to enrich and build up one body of citizens at the expense of all others.

The agriculturists of the country now understand this subject—once so mystified by whig sophistry and ingeniously veiled by false premises and artificial deductions. They have learned to insist hereafter upon the privilege of buying where they can buy cheapest, and sell where they can sell dearest. They can no longer be cheated by "home market" theory. The knowledge of this imposes on Mr. Clay the necessity of handling the subject in a very delicate way. Hence we find him remarkably mealy-mouthed in presenting the petition in question. He wishes to consider the subject in "a liberal and kind spirit." He does not propose to disturb the "essential provisions" of the democratic tariff of '46, but he wishes to modify it so as to 'prevent frauds;' which means simply, that if there should be a possibility of such a thing he would abandon the *ad valorem* and substitute the *specific* system, with its odious *minimums*. This is foreshadowed in the messages and public documents of the president, and other governmental functionaries, and Mr. Clay points to no other change; for, with the exception of higher duties, no other change is sought by the tariff whigs.

We have great faith that congress is so constituted as to look out for this whig entering wedge of "a few instances." If the "measure of protection" is to be overhauled at all, it will probably be found susceptible of a still further reduction in favor of the agriculturalists, who compose the great mass of the nation, and are therefore quite as much entitled to favorable legislation as the lordly and opulent minority to whom they have been so long hewers of "wood and drawers of water," through a necessity imposed upon them by the *protective* policy. The tariff of 1846 is doubtless defective, but those qualities which the protectionists would call defects, the people regard as excellencies.—Hence, whig legislation seeks not to improve it according to the democratic economy, and such defects as democrats might wish to remove, the protectionists would adhere to as the chief merits of the law.

No democrat will probably object to the agitation of the question. Every able and comprehensive discussion of it in congress and elsewhere has served to enlighten the people in regard to its merits, and we shall find the past victories over the protectionists followed by others still greater, until in the course of time free trade will place all citizens and interests upon an equal footing.

☞On Friday last, Mr. Schenk introduced a bill granting the right of way to the states of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, for a railroad to connect the Mississippi with the lakes.

Mr. McClernand offered a substitute, granting land to aid in the construction of roads. The subject was debated, but not disposed of.

☞Watkins (whig) has been elected speaker of the house of representatives of Missouri.

☞By a dispatch in the Journal of yesterday, we learn that Mr. Butterfield is expected to go out of the land office, and that Mr. Lincoln will succeed him.

Further about the Explosion of the Anglo-Norman.

Mr. Lumsden, of the Picayune, who was on board and blown into the river, but escaped, gives minute particulars in regard to the disaster. He says:

It is impossible for me to make an accurate estimate of the number of persons on board; but I should say not less than one hundred. There might have been more. I have at no time seen a more highly respectable and accomplished company of gentlemen. All were present by special invitation, and most of them distinguished in the various branches of business in which they were respectively engaged, and as useful members of society. They were present to witness an experimental trip of the first low-pressure boat ever built, out and out, by the mechanics of New Orleans. There were also on board some six or eight ladies.

In the building of the boat no means had been spared. Mr. J. W. Stanton, one of our most enterprising, intelligent, and useful citizens, who furnished the capital for the building of the boat, said to me that her cost was in the neighborhood of $50,000.

It will be recollected that it was a pleasure excursion. A dinner was served in splendid style, with the usual accomplishments of speeches and toasts. It was immediately after dinner that the explosion occurred. In contrast with the occurrence, we copy the following speech on that occasion, as an excellent specimen of antithesis:

A sentiment from some quarter, particularly directed at Mr. J. W. Stanton, the owner of the Anglo Norman, brought that gentleman to his feet. His remarks, though delivered in an unpretending colloquial tone, struck every one present as particularly well-timed and sensible. He spoke in terms the most complimentary of the artisans and mechanics, the result of whose combined labor and skill was the fine steamer on board which the company were then enjoying so delightful an excursion. He said that greater mechanical skill was not to be found in any portion of the Union than here; and in his opinion, there was not a better piece of workmanship afloat on any waters than the Anglo-Norman. She was not only the first boat built, in all her parts, by mechanics of New Orleans, but the first low-pressure boat ever built for regular service on the turbid waters of the Mississippi. She was an experiment; but the experiment, in his own opinion, and in that of the most competent judges, would prove eminently successful. And why, he asked, should not New Orleans successfully engage in boat and ship building? There was no spot in the Union nor on the globe, which was so favorably situated for this department of mechanical enterprise. No place possessed so many advantages. That could be said of New Orleans, and of the southern portion of the Union, which could not be said of any other portion of the world—that here we are in possession, without importation from abroad, of every material that is wanted in the construction of steam-boats steamship, and sea-going vessels of every description. We were beginning to discover these unequalled advantages, and to make use of them.—The Anglo-Norman was a pioneer in this great enterprise. It was the beginning of the competition which would hereafter wax warmer between the mechanics of the east and the south and west—it was the first gun fired in the great battle of skill and enterprise destined to be fought between these different sections of the Union, which, in his opinion, would surely result in victory to the south and west. Mr. Stanton concluded by proposing the sentiment, "The mechanics of New Orleans," which was received with prolonged cheering.

EMIGRATION TO TEXAS.—We have repeatedly noticed the strong tide of emigration which is setting towards Texas. It appears to be steadily increasing in volume, and promises to add much to the wealth as well as to the population of that thriving young state. The Galveston Civilian of the 13th, says:

Every vessel arriving at this port from New Orleans comes crowded with passengers, and leaves others at that city awaiting the opportunity to follow. The New York packets begin also to come with full lists of passengers, while hundreds are arriving in vessels direct from Europe. From five to six hundred persons arrive weekly at this port. They are nearly all people of good circumstances—many of them wealthy. The papers of eastern Texas continue to speak of immense numbers of people arriving by land. The introduction of slaves is heavy beyond precedent. It is almost impossible to realize the change which is sweeping over the face of the country. Immense tracts which were unpeopled, or occupied by Indians a short time ago, are now occupied by an active and highly civilized population, and rapidly assuming the appearance of long settled and highly improved districts.

Capt. Sir Edward Belcher has returned to this city from the upper Brazos, where he has been to locate the English emigrants who lately arrived here, and to make preparations for numerous others, who are to follow. We understand that he is delighted with the country and its prospects, and goes home to push the work of emigration to the beautiful and fertile country which he has selected. The company which he represents commands a very large capital, and will, we understand, prosecute the work on a large scale. The country he has selected is well adapted not only to cotton, but the grains, and stock growing; but the company will not confine itself to planting and agricultural pursuits. Manufactures on an extensive scale will be established, and from the facilities afforded by the country, will doubtless be highly successful.

☞A hoosier editor furnishes his readers with the following interesting intelligence:

"A girl, who was one of our first loves, was one night lighting us out, after having passed a delightful evening, and in a bashful trepidation, she blew us out of the door, and drew the candle behind the door and kissed it."

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Friday night last, when near Monmouth, the stage from this place to Peoria, turned over and killed a Mr. Snow, of Burlington, Io., the only passenger. Mr. S. was riding on the box with the driver, at the time of the accident, and must have held to the railing of the coach as it turned over, as he was found under it, lifeless. We understand that the driver was badly injured.—*Freeport Dem.*

☞New Orleans dates to the 23d ult. says that the steamer Pacific arrived the 23d, at 9 o'clock, P. M. She brings no later news from California than that brought by the Philadelphia. She left Chagres on the evening of the 12th, and Havana the 19th.

The Pacific brought to New Orleans 296 passengers. 240 of whom were from Chagres, 35 from New York, and 21 from Havana, besides $71,000 worth of gold dust, $55,000 of which belongs to Messrs. D. K. Garrison & Brother, who were passengers by the Pacific.

The Pacific left Chagres with 470 passengers, the California mails, and $200,000 in gold dust. A greater part of the dust, and about one-half of the passengers, were transferred to the Ohio for New York.

Italy and the West Compared.

A correspondent of the St. Louis Republican writing from Italy, says:

My expectations in regard to Italy are disappointed in two or three particulars. I have not yet found the peculiar golden sunsets, balmy air, and paradisical beauties which my imagination had pictured from the glowing descriptions of Italian travelers. The north of Italy is so much like Kentucky and Missouri in the rankness and luxuriance of its vegetation, in the majestic beauty of its forests, and in its picturesque scenery, that I could not refrain from exclaiming frequently, how exactly the climate, and the general appearance of things is like the south and west of the United States. For the first time, after we crossed the Appenines and descended into Italy, since we left the Ohio river, could I say that I was comfortably and thoroughly warm. It was clear and pleasant weather; the sky was cloudless, the sunsets beautiful day after day, but no more so than in Missouri day after day, and week after week. I finally came to the conclusion, that although Italy was a beautiful country, indeed, it was no more so than our own country in the south and west; and that all the glowing, unearthly descriptions of "sunny Italy" were written by Englishmen, who had lived so eternally in rain, mist or fog, and so seldom in their lives had seen a blazing noon-day sun, and seen it go down in its glory, that it was the most natural thing in the world, that an enthusiastic lover of nature should go off in ecstacies on finding a country with cloudless skies, balmy air and gorgeous sunsets. I listened in vain, moreover, in this 'land of song' for those exquisite bursts of melody which have bewitched so many travelers; but nobody sung while I was there. The song even of the gondolier in Venice was hushed, and who could sing in Venice now?

PAINE'S LIGHT GENUINE.—This affair is no humbug after all, perhaps. At least, Mr. Paine has succeeded in convincing the editorial fraternity of Worcester, Mass., of the reality of his invention, as a method of making gas from water. The editors of the Tribune, Spy and Palladium, have each and all been inducted into the secrets of the process, and come out firm believers in the magnitude and genuineness of the invention. The Spy says:

"When the parts of the machine in which the invention is contained, the helices and electrodes, were examined, a sufficient cause was found to account for the effect produced.

The construction of these is different from anything of the kind before known, yet founded on well established principles."

The editor of the Boston Chronotype also went to Worcester, to see and judge for himself, and is now rejoicing in the faith that Paine is really the modern Prometheus, who "has extorted from nature the secret of the artificial production of light at a nominal cost."

Other journals state that both the editors of the Worcester Spy and of the Chronotype are competent to speak on this subject.

SUFFERING AMONG THE INDIANS.—We regret to learn that some of the Indian tribes west of us, the Potawotamies, Miamies and others, are suffering for both food and raiment. Hundreds of these unfortunate beings must shortly perish with hunger and cold, unless supplies are sent them.—It is believed that many of them are already beyond the reach of relief.

The able-bodied men have, thus far, been able to provide for themselves and their wives and children, by hunting, but it is feared that even these cannot subsist during the winter, upon what they can thus obtain.

The old men who are unable to endure the fatigues of hunting are left to starve.

The widows, with their children, are shut up in their lodges. Being unable to hunt, and destitute of the means of buying food, their fate is inevitable. A gentleman, last week told us that he had, a few days previous, passed a lodge in which were a widowed mother with five children, to whom she had given the last morsel of food she possessed.—Shivering with cold, they hung round their mother, and piteously clamored for more. He left them, being unable to afford them any relief—the one suffering agonies which can better be imagined than described, and the others heightening those agonies by their piteous cries for food. Their cries and agonies are, it is probable, over ere this, and their stiffened bodies lying in the lodge where the stranger left them.—*Independence (Mo.) Mess.*

SETTING ASIDE A JURY'S VERDICT.—The Cleveland, Ohio, Democrat of the 3d inst., says Judge Andrews, of the superior court, now in session, set aside a verdict yesterday, on the sole ground that one of the parties had held a conversation with one of the jurors touching the matter then in issue. In giving his opinion, the distinguished Judge took occasion to say that he was not dissatisfied with the verdict, nor did it appear that the jury had been in the least influenced by the conversation; but he put it on the distinct and sole ground, that public policy and a proper administration of justice required that jurors should never in any manner be approached by parties to suits.

☞The sixty days for which the members are paid full per diem will expire before the first day of March. A correspondent of the *Republican* suggests that if the legislature shall then adjourn, the governor may undertake to re-appoint Mr. BENTON. We have no great apprehension of this. In the first place, the Legislature cannot adjourn until after the fourth of March; and in the second place, if it could, and the governor should so grossly outrage the spirit of the constitution and the public feeling of the state, we run little risk in saying that he would not be permitted to pollute the soil of the state longer than it would take to have him transported from it.—*St. Louis Times.*

OUR MINISTER TO RUSSIA.—The Hon. Neil S. Brown, of Tennessee, Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States to Russia, has recently written a letter to his friends at home, which is published in the Pulaski Star. From it the following extracts are taken:

On the 13th of August I was presented to the Emperor, Empress and other members of the Imperial family. The ceremony took place at Peterhoof—some ten miles distant—where the Emperor's summer palace is situated. There was less formality than I expected. A speech from the Minister was dispensed with, according to custom here, and the whole ceremony between the Emperor and myself was a mere conversation of about ten minutes. He is a fine looking man, and would impress any one with the idea of superiority. He is over six feet high—well built—with marked face and head; and his manner and conversation indicated great energy of character. He is said to be the most laborious man in the empire. His eye is upon every department. I saw him on two other occasions on the parade ground drilling his troops. On one day there were eighty thousand troops, of all arms, under parade, and under the eye of the Emperor. There is not much intercourse between Russia and the United States. There has not been an American ship here since I arrived.

Our trade here is much less than formerly. Several causes exist for this. In the first place, we buy very little from Russia: some sheet iron, drilling, and sail cloth make up the principal; and what she used to buy from us directly, is now bought intermediately through Great Britain. Our vessels find but little inducement to come here, for, in the main, they have to return in ballast. I am about as well pleased as I expected to be, except I fear the business of the mission will be lean. I would rather have as much as I could do. I would not then have so many vacant hours, in which to cast my eyes over the Atlantic. I do not feel willing, from what I have seen, to bring my family here; I fear my children could not stand the climate. With this view, I think I shall ask leave to return home next spring or summer.

☞The medical students of Harvard University are earnestly debating the question, whether or not, they shall censure the faculty for admitting colored persons and ladies to attend the medical lectures.

ABORIGINAL REMAINS.—A recent flood on the river Dan, in North Carolina, by washing away the embankments, has disclosed numerous skeletons of human beings, pieces of earthenware, Indian utensils, &c., which seem to have been suddenly buried by some catastrophe, not unlike an avalanche of earth from an eminence. Some of the skeletons are found in a sitting posture, and are nearly perfect. A variety of curiosities are found in connection with them. There seems to be no doubt that they are the bones of Indians, traces of whose encampments on the banks of the Dan are still visible; but how they came to be buried in the condition found, is a mystery.

☞A dispatch, from Philadelphia, dated the 30th ult., says that a fire broke out in the press room of the Philadelphia Ledger, at 7 o'clock that morning. The whole is now totally destroyed. Loss from $70,000 to $80,000. The adjoining property was in great danger.

A dispatch from New York, same date, says the fire in the Ledger building is subdued—the fourth, fifth and sixth stories were completely burned out—the first and second stories of the basement were greatly damaged by water—loss estimated at $150,000, most of which was insured.

The Joking Clergyman.

A correspondent of a Boston paper relates the following anecdotes of the Rev. Mather Byles, the well known joking clergyman of Boston.

Mr. Byles lived in the time of the revolution, and was a tory.

The distillery of Thomas Hill was at the corner of Essex and South streets, not far from Mr. Belknap's residence, in Lincoln street. Dr. Byles called on Mr. Hill, and inquired:

'Do you still?'

'That is my business,' Mr. Hill replied.

'Then will you go with me and still my wife?' said Dr. Byles.

As he was once occupied in nailing some list upon his doors, to exclude the cold, a parishioner said to him: 'the wind bloweth wheresoever it listeth, Dr. Byles.'

'Yes, sir,' replied the doctor, 'and man listeth wheresoever the wind bloweth.'

He was intimate with General Knox, who was a bookseller before the war. When American troops took possession of the town, after the evacuation, Knox, who had become quite corpulent, marched on at the head of his artillery. As he passed on, Byles, who thought himself privileged on old scores, exclaimed, loud enough to be heard—'I never saw AN OX (a Knox) fatter in my life.'

But Knox was not in the vein. He felt offended by this freedom, especially from Byles, who was then known to be a tory, and replied in uncourtly terms, that he was a fool.

In May, 1777, Dr. Byles was arrested as a tory, and subsequently tried, convicted to confinement on board a guardship, and sent to England with his family in forty days. This sentence was changed by board of war, to confinement in his own house. A guard was placed over him. After a time the sentinel was removed, afterwards replaced, and again removed, when the doctor exclaimed, that he had been guarded, and disregarded.—He called his sentry his observ-a-tory!

Perceiving one morning that the sentinel, a simple fellow, was absent, and seeing Dr. Byles himself pacing before his own door, with a musket on his shoulder, the neighbors stepped over to inquire the cause.

'You see,' said the doctor, 'I begged the sentinel to let me go for some milk for my family, but he would not suffer me to stir. I reasoned the matter with him, and he has gone himself to get it for me, on condition that I keep guard in his absence.'

Upon the 19th of May, 1780, the most memorable dark day, a lady wrote to the doctor, as follows:

'Dear doctor—How do you account for this darkness?' And received his immediate reply:—'Dear Madam—I am as much in the dark as you are.'

This for sententious brevity, has never been surpassed, unless by the correspondence between the comedian, Sam Foote, and his mother:

'Dear Sam—I am in jail.'

Dear Mother—So am I.'

From the time of the Stamp Act, 1775, to the period of the revolution, the cry had been repeated in every form of phraseology, that our grievances should be redressed. On a fine morning when the multitude had gathered on the common to see a regiment of red coats paraded there, who had recently arrived, the doctor said, 'well, I think we can no longer complain that our grievances are not red-dressed!'

Had not this eccentric man possessed some very excellent and amiable qualities, he could not have maintained his relation to the Hollis Street Church and society for forty-three years, from 1733 to 1776, and have separated from them at last, for political considerations alone.

The Dedham Democrat, quoting the above, appends another anecdote.

There is one of Dr. Byles' jokes which was related to us by an old lady, once a member of his society, which has not been in the papers, which we will tell as it was told to us:

At the time when Whitfield was in Boston drawing crowds to listen to his eloquence, Dr. Byles remarked one day that he would go sooner to hear Whitfield than any other preacher. The person addressed marvelled at the remark, because Whitfield's doctrines were not consonant with the doctor's feelings, and he said to him, 'why so, doctor?' Because, said the wag, 'if I didn't, I could not get in!'

SPRINGFIELD, JANUARY 6, 1851.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.—This body meets in this city to-day. Nearly all the members are in attendance, and it is probable that an organization of both bodies will be effected to-day, and the business of the session entered upon immediately.

The message will probably be communicated to-morrow.

LINTON ZARLEY, esq., attorney at law, died at Joliet on the 15th ult. He was a young man, of fine talents and extensive intellectual acquirements.

AMERICAN ART UNION.—The annual meeting of the American Art Union was held at Tripler Hall, in New York, on the evening of the 20th instant, on which occasion five hundred prizes were distributed to the fortunate among sixteen thousand three hundred and ten subscribers, whose joint subscriptions amounted to $81,550, and four hundred and fifty pictures, by the best artists of America.

We do not find any of our townsmen on the list. This is the first time Springfield has failed to draw a prize.

The choice prize, number 100 on the list, "the Dream of Arcadia," by the late Thomas Cole, who painted "the Voyage of Life" last year, which was won by a printer in the western part of the state of New York, and for which he was offered $6,000, was won by Samuel Westcott, of Jersey City, N. J. It is said to be worth as much as the "Voyage of Life."

☞The Journal last week stated that Judge Breese framed, or assisted in framing the Holbrook charter. We are requested to say that this is altogether a mistake, as Judge Breese never saw the charter till he saw them in the state, after his return from congress.

☞The financial condition of Missouri is represented as in a very prosperous condition. On the 1st October, 1850, there was in the treasury the sum of $488,194 65. But the revenue for the two years ending October 1st, 1850, was $520,735 29; and it is estimated that the revenue for the next two years, if there be no change in the present laws, will not fall short of $650,800. The amount of taxable property in this state is set down at $79,156,547 97; of which the assessed value of lands is $31,512,391 77; of town lots, $22,441,463; of slaves, $17,772,180; and other personal property, $7,731,503 20.

☞The abolition papers in the eastern states are filled lately, with extracts from the British press denouncing the fugitive slave law passed at the last session of congress, and demanding its repeal. They seem to imagine that these states are still a dependency of Great Britain, and that English opinion can shape our public policy and control our institutions.

☞The proprietors of "Sartain's Magazine," of Philadelphia, offer one hundred dollars for each of ten tales. They say they may be tales, essays, or articles of a miscellaneous character, according to the taste or judgment of the writers, but must be on subjects of general interest, must be of a character suited to interest the great mass of readers, must contain something striking and likely to arrest attention, and must, moreover, be of moderate length—say about six or eight magazine pages. The manuscript to be furnished by 1st April next.

☞The St. Louis Intelligencer and the St. Louis Republican, have both been enlarged, and the latter has received a new dress. They are now among the largest and best commercial papers in the Union.

☞A clergyman in Western New York, writes to the N. Y. Journal of Commerce:

There is at least one clergyman in Western New York, who approves highly of your course on the compromise measures, and (though no friend to slavery) will still continue to maintain the integrity of the laws, and the duty of all good citizens to obey them. I am not alone in these views, and I find that all are now learning to keep still on the subject, who were exceedingly vituperative. The friends of order, from present indications, will prevail, and the fugitive slave law will not be disturbed.

MR. WEBSTER.—The Boston Herald has the intimation that Mr. Webster is preparing to fix his residence in New York when he shall have retired from his present position in the government.

SKIES BRIGHTENING AT THE NORTH.—Almost every day some new manifestation of love for the Union, and fidelity to the constitution on which it rests, is displayed both at the north and the south. We rejoice at this evidence of popular loyalty to the welfare of the country, and at the rebuke which it conveys to those fanatics and demagogues who have been striving to their utmost to destroy and break down the safeguards of all that true patriots most prize. Vermont and South Carolina are now the "twin sisters" of discord, and, after agitating, and resolving for a while, will probably "die the same at last." Should either be encouraged by their neighbors, God only knows where the matter would end; but we trust those neighbors at both extremities of the Union have more sense and patriotism than to join in any such dangerous designs. Let the legislatures of both these little states stand as "beacon-lights set upon a hill."—*Norfolk Herald.*

The Higher Law.

It would have done your heart good to have heard this venerable, learned, and eloquent Presbyterian, Dr. Spring, on Thanksgiving day. He preached upon the lamentable crisis to which our country has been brought by disorganizers, and without asperity, yet with deep feeling, he called upon all religious men to stand by the constitution and the country. His text was from 16th chapter of Numbers, in which it is related how, at the rebellion of Korah and the sons of Levi, Moses fell upon his face, &c. In view of the stand which a party in the north, professedly religious men, and even preachers of the gospel, had taken, against the constitution and the laws of the land, Dr. Spring said he felt like falling upon the earth, as Moses had done.

He began his discourse with a commentary on the origin of religious and civil government; and he held that no matter what was the reigning power, so long as it was not manifestly against the will of God, we were to submit to it. Cæsar was an usurper, yet Jesus Christ deferred to his authority, and taught others to do so. The disciples obeyed the laws that persecuted them, and even appealed to them with success at times, as Paul did. He showed how subversive of *all* laws was the repudiation of any one law; and how men endangered laws that they thought indispensable, when they declared resistance to a law that did not happen to meet their approval.

Dr. Spring adverted to the framing of our constitution, the mutual concessions then made by the wise and patriotic fathers of our liberties, and the general prosperity which had resulted from this sacred compact between the States.

Of the fugitive slave law, he said, 'The men who framed that law have done the best they could for the master and the slave, and for the world, as our fathers did before them. Far different views from these are entertained, I know, on this subject.—Some of the public newspapers and pamphlets inform us that this law is to be resisted *vi et armis*, and what is worse, this is preached by some ministers of the Gospel.' Here the aged orator spoke with deep feeling and pathos, yet with energy and eloquence. 'From not a few pulpits in the land,' (he continued,) 'and in this city, we are told that the executors of the law are to be treated as assassins; and that if the fugitive commits murder in resisting it, he would die a martyr, if consigned to the gallows. We can scarcely believe our eyes or our ears, when we hear and see these things exist. In what land do we live? By what sort of men are we surrounded? What spirit is it that offers these bloody counsels? There is no mistaking its meaning—it is resistance to the laws of the land, even to blood. Is this the religion of the Bible—the teachings of the Apostles—the example of the Son of God—the christianity of the north? * * * We trust in the patriotism and piety of our people to disavow these things. We have no alternative but to abide by the constitution, or secede from the Union. *It is not for the South* to secede; they abide by the constitution. Is the north prepared to secede? No! no! is exclaimed by a million of voices. * * * I have no hesitation in saying that the sudden dissolution of the system of slavery, would make the slaves wandering vagabonds on the face of the earth, and could I liberate all the slaves by a prayer, I would not utter it, because I could not, in love either for the master or the slave. * * * Will the slave gain any thing by a dissolution of the confederacy? Indeed I think abolitionists ought to take counsel of conscience. Divide this republic on the question of slavery, and you draw a line to be steeped in blood, and cursed with a border warfare. * * * We live under a government most favorable to public safety and happiness; and we should be thankful to the God of Heaven for what we enjoy.'

N. Y. Cor. of the St. Louis Int.

☞The State Register says Wentworth is a "prisoner of war to the whigs." We think rather, he comes under that class of fugitives, who "owe service" to the state.—*Chicago Journal.*

The state will willingly forgive him the debt.

☞Col. Benton, in a recent speech in the U. S. senate, corrected history as follows. Nobody would have known to the contrary if he had not told it:

The famous South Pass was no scientific discovery. Some people think Fremont discovered it.—It had been discovered forty years before. He only described it, and confirmed what the hunters and traders had reported. It was discovered—or rather first seen by white people—in 1808, two years after the return of Lewis and Clark, and by the first company of hunters and traders that went out after their report laid open the prospect of the fur trade in the Rocky Mountains.

PLANK ROADS.—A Missourian, writes as follows to the Republican:

The first cost of making plank roads where lumber is as accessible as in most of this state, will generally be found not to overgo $2,000 per mile, while a rock road will cost from $4,500 to $6,000 per mile; but this is not the end. The cost of keeping a rock road in good repair, is very large; this, however, will vary with the description of travel and the toughness of the rock. A plank road may be kept in repair for one fourth the amount, while the capacity is in the ratio of two and a fourth to four, or nearly doubled. The renewal will of course be less. The profits of plank roads in New York are large, while rock roads yield but little. In Kentucky, the yield has been about 3 per cent.; in New York 5 per cent.; Ohio about 4½ per cent. Plank roads leading from Rome, N. Y., yielded 25 per cent., contending, too, with the railroad and Erie canal. Those running out of Syracuse, N. Y., have yielded from 20 to thirty per cent.

The Burlington and Mount Vernon plank road company, in Iowa, divided last month 25 per cent. A road leading out of Chicago paid for itself in one year at moderate tolls.

PHENOMENON.—We understand that a woman in Sharpsburgh, on Wednesday night last, gave birth to twin children, (illegitimate) who are united together after the fashion of the Siamese Twins.—They are doing well.—*Pittsburgh Post.*

☞The Philadelphia papers contain detailed accounts of the recovery of a fugitive slave in that city on Saturday, belonging to Mr. Knight, of Cecil county, Maryland. The case was ably argued on both sides before the United States commissioner—David Paul Brown and Charles Gibbons appearing for the fugitive. On the conclusion of the argument, the commissioner declared himself satisfied that the accused was the person claimed, and that the right of the master was established. He decided that he should be delivered up to the agent of the claimant. The proper papers were made out, and he was given in custody of the representatives of Mr. Knight. Crowds of persons, principally blacks, hung about the state house during the afternoon and evening. No disorder was manifested, and no attempts to rescue or disturb the peace made. The accused was removed, without any trouble, in time to be placed in the cars for Baltimore, at the depot at Eleventh and Market streets, and was conveyed to Maryland. Throughout the whole proceedings he appeared unconcerned as to the result, and on one occasion, at least, when he might have escaped with impunity, neglected to avail himself of the opportunity. Police Marshal Keyser was promptly on the ground with a large body of police, but there was no occasion for any energetic exercise of his authority.

THE TARIFF.—Towards the close of the last session of congress, when the bills granting to the new states a portion of the public domain, to aid in the construction of internal improvements was under consideration, the bribed representatives of the manufacturing interests of the north, refused to vote for those land bills unless the representatives from the states interested, would violate their principles and the will of their constituents, and sustain such a modification of the tariff as would enable northern capitalists to fleece the farming and industrial classes. The representatives from this state spurned the degrading proposition made to them by these men, with contempt. We hope and trust they will again spurn it. So detestable and unprincipled a scheme cannot be too decisively rebuked.

From the indications which the present session of congress has already foreshadowed, an attempt to increase the tariff in some particulars will undoubtedly be made. It is true the indications also show that the attempt will probably fail; but the subject may at least be re-opened to the renewal of eternal discussions and perhaps sectional jealousies. In view of the reformer, no question arising since the foundation of our confederation, has inflicted upon the country a fraction of the misrepresentations and abuses with which this tariff question has been fraught. It has seldom been approached upon just principles or investigated with a liberal eye. We, who have witnessed the final overthrow of two of the centralizing assumptions of the general government—national banking—and legislation upon territorial slavery—have yet, perhaps, to see in this our generation, a contest to which these former will have scarcely been superior in importance, waged upon the subject of indirect taxation.

Men of all parties and sections are beginning to awake to the encroachments of a central power, to which all have too long been blind. Everywhere we see a disposition on the part of the people to wrest from congress its usurped ownership of the public lands, and to reclaim the birthright which has been hawked for purchase. The enormous corruptions of the federal internal improvement system must also, ere long, awaken popular indignation to sweep them away before it. And the day is not far from this our present one, when the whole mass of pamphlets, essays, speeches, editorials, and legislative reports, which have sustained the system of indirect taxation for "protection," and as a main source of revenue, will be banished from our congress, our libraries, and our daily press, to those more congenial scenes, "the humane but melancholy receptacles of broken minds."—*St. Louis Times.*

MARINE DISASTERS ON THE WATERS OF THE WEST AND SOUTH DURING 1850.—Below we give a partial list of the accidents which have occurred to steamers navigating the waters of the west and south during the year which has just closed. In hastily glancing through our files, we have no doubt overlooked many, but the list is formidable enough to arouse serious reflection upon the causes which lead to these dreadful casualties, as well as to inspire a hope that the time may speedily arrive when, the safer, cheaper, and more expeditious means of travel offered by railroads, will have well nigh superceded the more uncertain means of transit referred to. We have selected the most important accidents only, passing over minor ones altogether.

From this list it will be seen that the number of boats totally lost was 53, of which 33 were sunk, 14 burned, and 6 destroyed by explosion. The number of accidents is 117. Number of killed nearly 700, and of wounded probably half that number. The amount of capital destroyed from these accidents would no doubt exceed one million and a half of dollars.

☞A MUSICAL CRITIC.—A verdant young man from the country recently attended a concert in this city, one of the principal features of which was a violin solo by a distinguished performer. After performance was concluded, the young gent was asked by his female cousin how he liked Monsieur's fiddling? He replied that "it was totally but good—but he thought the chap played his fingers up a *little too near the bridge to look well.*"—*Ledger.*

☞Wombwell, the exhibitor of animals, is dead. Old and infirm, he could not bear to be separated from his menagerie, and he travelled about with it, in a bed carriage. His menagerie was exhibiting when he died, and on an announcement of his death was made, by his request, to the spectators; after which the band played the Dead March in Saul, and the exhibition closed.

☞The homestead law passed by the Vermont legislature of 1849, went into operation the 1st of this month. It provides that house and land to the value of $500, with the produce of the land, shall be exempt from attachment and execution, except for taxes. In the case of the decease of a husband this amount of property shall descend to his wife and children, without being subject to his debts, unless made specially chargeable thereupon, and such homestead cannot be alienated or mortgaged, except by joint deed of husband and wife. The homestead is however liable for debts contracted before its purchase, and the husband may mortgage the same, at the time of purchase, without the consent of the wife.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate,
and House of Representatives:

Time in its steady onward course has brought around the period for your assembling together, to discharge the duties which periodically devolve upon the representatives of the people. Upon the eve of the commencement of your deliberations, you will allow me, therefore, to congratulate you in view of the cheering and prosperous condition of our beloved state, as manifest in the favorable prospects which, on all sides, surround us. From a broad expanse of territory and a sparse population, we have, within a short number of years, witnessed a rapid and almost unprecedented change—from a few thousands to nearly nine hundred thousand inhabitants, while in every part we meet, in active operation, the elements of a rapidly increasing wealth and continued prosperity. All industrial employments within its borders, find encouragement under the regular administration of the laws, and the exercise of that free and healthful competition, which is made free to all by the principles of the constitution. To secure and perpetuate our present advantages and enjoyments, depends much upon the manner in which the important trust, temporarily confided to your care, shall be discharged. It may probably be said with truth and emphasis, that at no time during the political history of this state, has its legislature convened, when more important results depend upon its action, than the present. For, besides the usual quantity of legislative business, subjects of lasting and transcendant importance to the future destiny of the state, will demand your attention, and which, in order to dispose of them properly, will require great care and deliberation.

In general, it may be said, that with few laws, simple and plain in their character, and with the few changes in those now in force which the varying necessities of our condition may require, disturbing as little as practicable the accustomed and voluntary avocations of the people, leaving the channels of industry free and unobstructed, together with ample protection both of person and property, we have the best assurance of continued prosperity, and uniform quiet and contentment.

Legislation should be adapted to the wants and exigencies of a community as they gradually unfold themselves to notice, in the changing condition of things around us. It ought, moreover, to be practical, and suited rather to remedy mischiefs which have an actual existence, than to provide against such as are merely speculative. If this maxim is observed, few laws will be needed, and few enactments made.

The practical wisdom of the present age is in nothing more beneficially illustrated, than in the efforts which have been made, and are now making, to remedy evils consequent upon too much legislation, by removing the fetters from trade, breaking down the barriers which interrupt a free and salutary exchange of commodities, arresting, and, as far as practicable, limiting the encroaching power of monopolies, and opening alike to all, an equal participation in the common blessings and enjoyments of life, which Providence in its wisdom has bountifully vouchsafed to mankind.

The shortness of the regular legislative session, and the variety of subjects which will necessarily claim your attention, will naturally impose upon you severe and continuous labor, besides admonishing you of the propriety of using as great diligence and expedition in the discharge of business, as the due consideration and importance of each subject will permit. Laws now in force require to be reviewed and amended, in order to modify what have proved to be mischievous provisions, or supply radical defects, which have disclosed themselves in the frequent attempts to execute them. This will be found especially true, as regards the township organization law, which it has been found next to impracticable to execute, in many of its more important provisions, in the manner supposed to have been designed by its makers. To perfect it, so that it can be intelligently and practically enforced, many defects must be supplied, and ambiguities removed. This will become necessary, for the further reason, to make the law harmonize with other existing municipal regulations. Without entering into a detailed enumeration of the several amendments needed to supply defects and harmonize its various provisions, but which a careful examination will bring to view, I will take occasion to refer you to one, which may be found essentially necessary, to guard against the difficulties of organizing under the law. I refer to the vote which the constitution requires to be taken before a county can become organized. It is conceived to be nearly or quite impracticable, in the absence of any rule or provision by which to determine the number of voters resident in a county, otherwise than as they present themselves at the polls, to observe a literal compliance with that provision of the constitution which requires a majority of the votes of a county to be cast in favor of its organization, before it can be organized. It may be proper, and as I conceive fully within the power of the legislature, to prescribe what shall constitute such constitutional majority, or establish some rule by which it can be practically determined what shall constitute it, and how it shall be ascertained, so as, hereafter, to rid the law of this perplexing question. In order to guard against future controversies, it may be found prudent to legalize the proceedings of counties which have attempted to organize, but have been met by these and other embarrassments referred to.

The present session is the one in course upon which devolves the districting of the state, so that the number of our representatives shall conform to the requirements of the late law of congress, fixing the apportionment for the ensuing ten years. By a late change in the state laws, the census returned by the United States marshal, is made the basis upon which the apportionment must be made. The unavoidable delay incident to taking it in this state, will protract the returns and the requisite certificate from the secretary of the interior, at Washington, to a late day, but it is hoped they will be received in sufficient time to enable you to perform this duty previous to your adjournment.

The trustees of the several public institutions now in process of erection, the hospital for the insane and the asylum for the blind, will cause to be laid before you, at an early day, full reports of whatever concerns them, with such details of the affairs connected with their progress, and financial condition, as will present the whole matter in a clear and intelligible shape. There will also be laid before you, in proper season, a like report from the proper officers of the institution for the education of the deaf and dumb, showing its financial condition, and the success which has attended the efforts of those who have had the charge of this highly benificent institution.

The experience of the last session will justify me in referring to a practice, which has become quite common, of allowing bills to accumulate in large numbers, and lie undisposed of till near the close of the session, when it becomes necessary, in order to prevent the failure of many important acts, to hurry them through a final passage with a rapidity and want of examination inconsistent with that deliberation which ought to characterize the enactment of laws. The brief length of the session, renders this indiscreet omission in the orderly disposition of the legislative business the more apparent, as it results in placing before the executive, upon the eve of adjournment, a large number of bills of various characters and importance, which must either fail from withholding his sanction, or be approved by him with little reflection or examination. It would not be difficult to trace to these several causes, concurring close upon the eve of adjournment, many of those confessedly defective and imperfect laws, found in the statute book, and which have been fruitful in perplexing controversies.

Nothing has occurred since the adjournment of the last general assembly to satisfy me of the necessity of a change or modification in any of those measures which I have heretofore recommended, and which have received the sanction of the legislature, or remain open for future consideration.

For the first time, in a series of years, I have the satisfaction to inform the general assembly, that the accruing revenue, exclusive of that portion appropriated to specific purposes, is found to be sufficient to meet the current demands upon the treasury, without resorting to a surplus issue of auditor's warrants, to meet deficiencies. It was the excess in the issue of these warrants over the current means of the treasury to redeem them, and which were demanded for state expenditures, which contributed to their depreciation, and resulted in a prolonged and severe sacrifice of the public revenue. The losses from this source alone have been very considerable, and almost incredible to those who are not familiar with the necessary consequences of depreciated warrants. In the present favorable condition of the treasury, it will require caution in graduating the expenditures of the state, so as to avoid the embarrassments and sacrifices from which it is now happily relieved. Until the full operation and results of our present financial policy shall become practically ascertained from experience, and so well settled that we can determine with greater certainty the amount of reliable permanent revenue, it may be advisable to divide the larger appropriation so as to charge a part only upon the treasury at any one time, thereby making the actual amount of immediate claims, to conform more nearly to the available means, as the same shall be received into it. By some such arrangement, the amount of outstanding warrants, at any one time, may be kept limited, and preserved against a depreciation, which would inevitably follow, if the amount in circulation were not regulated with a view to the ready means in the treasury to meet them. Judging from the present condition of the finances of the state, I entertain no doubt that, under an economical and yet sufficiently liberal appropriation and expenditure of the ordinary revenue, there will, in a short time, accumulate from this source alone, a surplus, not demanded for state expenditure, and which may be carried to the credit of the fund now appropriated to the discharge of the principal and interest of the state debt. The aggregate taxable property of the state, as reported to the auditor for the year 1849, amounts to very nearly one hundred and six millions of dollars, which will be considerably increased by the returns of the year 1850. Upon this amount is paid an annual tax of two mills to the dollar. The proceeds of this tax is designed to meet the current expenses of the state, and after making the proper allowance for defaults, and casual losses in the process of collection, may be stated at a yearly average of about one hundred and ninety thousand dollars. Keeping in view the many objects for which this revenue is needed to be applied, and a close approximation may be made to what may be safely appropriated to other purposes, or be applied to the discharge of the state debt, without embarrassing the treasury.

That provision of the constitution which requires an *ad valorem* assessment, instead of a specific valuation, of real property, has had but little influence, either in increasing or diminishing the revenue derivable from this source. But the removal by act of congress of the restriction, exempting the public land from taxation for five years after purchase, contributed materially to swell the aggregate of yearly revenue.

The taxes, which have been largely increased by the two mill tax of the constitution, have, in general, been cheerfully and promptly paid, and, for the most part, in season to meet the requirements of law.

Within the last four years there has been paid, as the product of the mill and a half tax, $529,173 60 in discharge of the interest upon the state debt. The receipts under the constitutional two mill tax, amounting to $165,788 81, are now in the treasury, awaiting the order of distribution, as provided in the 15th article of the constitution.

In contemplation of a change being made in this last mentioned article of the constitution, which provides the manner of applying the two mill tax to a specific class of indebtedness, it may be proper to review briefly the condition of that portion of the state debt to which it is required to be applied, and the relation which this revenue bears to the principal and interest. Besides the very obvious difficulty which lies in the way of giving this article of the constitution a suitable practical application, the consequent loss to the state from keeping more than $100,000 locked up in the treasury, on an average of not less than six months each year, while the interest on the state debt is constantly accumulating, without referring to the utter want of adaptation of this article to any judicious financial system, is sufficient, of itself, to suggest an inquiry into the propriety of making some change in it. It cannot have escaped the notice of those familiar with the debts and finances of the state, that this provisional two mill tax is greatly over estimated in its supposed influence upon the reduction of the state debt, and that it has been misconceived, both in its ultimate effect and amount. The sum actually received into the treasury for 1849, from this source, and which may probably be taken as approaching the yearly average, after allowing for the increase of taxable property, is $165,788 81. Apply this amount upon the indebtedness referred to in the article under notice, and an inference can be drawn of what may be relied upon for the future, from this source, to aid in reducing the principal of the public debt. This debt, exclusive of that portion incurred on behalf of the canal, is $6,330,506 70 principal debt, and $332,830 40 interest yearly. To meet this interest, is the mill and a half tax of about $140,000—but as this is required by law to be divided upon all interest paying indebtedness alike, canal bonds included, only about one half of this amount, or $70,000, remains to be applied towards the discharge of the above interest, leaving a yearly balance of interest upon this distinctive portion of the debt, of $312,830, unprovided for. It will be observed that reference is here made exclusively to the resources of the state derivable from taxation.

It was in view of the above facts, that I have been led to urge the proposed amendment. The article under review has been adopted by the people, and makes a part of the constitution, and must remain such until it shall in like manner be changed. Adopted by a large majority of the popular vote, it must be considered as the deliberate expression of the wishes of the people, in, at least, so far as the principle embraced in it is concerned. That is, that the money authorized to be raised by it shall be applied upon the principal of the public debt. Nor is it to be expected that this principle will be abandoned upon any contingency, but that whatever alteration may be desired or made in the present article, it will be preserved. I have given this question my most deliberate consideration, and am fully satisfied that the true interests of the state, and the rights of our creditors, require its amendment. I take the liberty, therefore, of urging upon the legislature, the adoption of such measures as shall cause the proposed change to be submitted to the people for their adoption or rejection. I feel assured that the contemplated amendment will work no injury to the public creditor, or afford cause of complaint, which does not already exist against the article, as it now stands. The proposed amendment requires that the money now required to be raised by taxation, under this 15th article of the constitution, instead of being applied virtually by way of endorsement upon the bonds, as is now provided, shall at once, and as fast as it may be received into the treasury, be taken and used in the purchase of state bonds and indebtedness, at their market value. After careful inquiries to this end, I have no hesitation in expressing the opinion, that the state creditors prefer this mode of applying this portion of the revenue to that required by the article as it now stands. They would undoubtedly prefer that it should be applied to the payment of interest as it accrues upon the bonds, but as between the two modes here referred to, they uniformly manifest a preference for that contemplated by the amendment.

With these views, I took occasion to present this question to the last general assembly, and the preliminary steps were taken to bring it before the people. It now devolves upon you to act finally upon it, by permitting or refusing to refer it to the people for their vote, at the next general election; and, in the meantime, with a view to their action, such provision may be made as will be suited to meet the result of the popular vote. If the amendment is adopted, no restraint or embarrassment is thrown around the public securities, but they will be left as now, to be disposed of by the holder as he pleases, while as a public measure it will tend gradually to raise the market price of the bonds, besides enable the state to relieve herself more rapidly from the burthen of the public debt.

There has been sold by the auditor of public accounts, since my last communication to the general assembly fourteen thousand acres of land, for which there has been paid, in state indebtedness, sixty-five thousand nine hundred and nineteen dollars and ninety-four cents. There is still belonging to the state and subject to sale, a residue of one hundred and thirty thousand acres, appraised at $753,348 83. The large number of United States land warrants, sold at reduced prices, and located in this state, has operated to check, to a considerable extent, the sale of the state lands during the past two years.

The funding or exchange of securities, embracing the entire state debt, excluding that of the canal, is nearly completed and the object sought to be obtained by this process mainly accomplished. Among the prominent objects of this exchange were, firstly, to ascertain the true condition of the state debt, and secondly, to reduce the various forms of which it consisted to uniformity, and lastly, to furnish a more complete and perfect record of the same. All this has been very nearly completed, so that this distinctive portion of the state debt, is represented by bonds of a uniform character, and regulated by judicious rules and forms of transfer, thereby presenting it in a shape and condition to be clearly and readily understood by all. Not the numbers and amount of the bonds only, are placed on record, but under the rules adopted for their transfer from one party to another, the name of the actual owner for the time being is likewise retained in all cases, and the relation between the state and each of its creditors, is preserved of record in the usual form of debtor and creditor. The fractional balances of the various kinds of indebtedness, not yet surrendered up for funding, will gradually come forward for exchange, so that it may reasonably be expected that the whole matter will soon be substantially finished. From the number of spurious coupons, which are known to be in circulation, and the custom which has prevailed among holders, of detaching coupons from the bonds, and disposing of them apart from the bonds, and owing to the further difficulty of distinguishing the spurious from the true, the entire body of each being printed, except the numbers in the margin, it may become necessary to prescribe the manner in which such detached coupons shall be presented to entitle them to be funded. This may be required in order to protect innocent holders and guard the state from imposition and fraud.

In accordance with a suggestion in my communication to the last general assembly, a law was passed authorizing the governor to invest in state bonds such sums belonging to the school fund, as might from time to time be received from the general government for the benefit of such fund. Since the passage of the law, there has been received by the school commissioner and delivered to the governor for the above purpose, $15,091 22, with which there has been purchased in state bonds $16,300 in principal, and $3,002 35 in interest; and since the date of the auditor's report there has also been purchased $14,917 76 principal, and $11,735, 58 interest, making in all $45,650 00, which has been deposited with the treasurer according to the provisions of said law.

Owing to the great number of land warrants employed in the entry of the public lands in this state, and upon which the general government withholds the usual per centage, the amount added to the school fund for the last two years, falls considerably short of the common average.

From the practical effect of the law, not only in the redemption of state bonds, but in turning the interest due thereon to the purposes of education, instead of sending it out of the state, it is much to be regretted that this measure had not been adopted at a much earlier day, when its influence upon the public debt and the cause of education, would have been much more marked and decisive.

The condition of the public debt on the first of January,

[illegible]

SPRINGFIELD, JANUARY 7, 1851.

The Governor's Message.

The message is a most excellent document, and will be read with satisfaction by all who take an interest in the public affairs of our state.

It exhibits the state in a more prosperous condition than could have been reasonably expected a few years since. The difficulties growing out of our financial embarrassments, are fast giving way to the wise and just policy which has characterized the administration of affairs. If the same policy is continued, we may, in a short time, look for a complete restoration of the public credit, and a still more rapid development of the immense resources with which we are favored.

It is, of course, impossible to treat in detail, of all the various topics of the message. Our space permits us only to refer to a few of the more prominent subjects; but we hope none of our readers will fail to give a careful perusal to the entire document, and bestow due consideration upon its suggestions.

The proposed change in the constitution, as to the application of the two mill tax, cannot but be regarded by those who will consider the subject, as of the highest importance. While it can result in no injustice to the public creditors, it will be productive of an increased advantage to the state, by a more rapid diminution of our indebtedness. The wisdom of this amendment, we are confident, cannot be questioned on any just, or even plausible grounds. It has already been sanctioned by a large majority of the legislature, and it now only remains for the present legislature to make such provision as will enable a final determination of the matter to be made at the next general election. We shall take occasion hereafter to refer to the propriety of the proposed change.

The large increase in the amount added to the school fund, shows the wisdom of the policy urged by the governor, and adopted by the general assembly at the session of 1849. It is only a matter of regret that this increase was not soon brought into operation. The friends of education have good reason to rejoice that the means of extending the usefulness of our common schools are thus enlarged, while the outstanding public debt is in the same proportion diminished,

What is said relative to the constitutional restriction, in granting special acts of incorporation, is worthy of consideration. The policy of such restriction is not, nor is it likely to be questioned, but experience has shown that it is liable in a greater or less extent to be disregarded. Those who have considered the course of legislation, in the last general assembly, on this subject, will need no further illustration of the facility with which constitutional prohibitions are sometimes carelessly overlooked.

On the subject of internal improvements, the message is plain, straightforward and practical. Sectional preferences are altogether discarded, and such measures only recommended as will result in promoting the best interests of the state. We trust that the same patriotic spirit may pervade the legislative counsels, and result in a beneficial and satisfactory arrangement of this momentous question.

The brief plans presented for the construction of the Central railroad and branches, are as full as such a document will justify, and at the same time sufficiently explicit to attract attention on the part of the general assembly to a definite object.

On the subject of banking, he still adheres to his old position, which doubtless meets the views of a great majority of the people. The convention by which Gov. French was nominated for the office he now fills, made an explicit declaration of opposition to banks, and we, as yet, have no proof which leads us to conclude that such declaration is not still a fair expression of the public sentiment.

The people of the state have nothing to gain by the establishment of monopolies. It is not their policy or their interest to grant exclusive privileges to a few, in which the many have no chance to participate. Hence they are not likely to favor the existence of banking institutions amongst us while those interested in them are not made as thoroughly responsible for their issues as in the case of individuals and partnerships. The great battle is to be fought against monopoly or exclusive privileges. The people will most assuredly resist the shackles which speculators and aristocrats are preparing to rivit upon them. They will crush the monster monopoly or be crushed themselves. It is monopoly arrayed on one side, seeking to benefit the few who are rich, and freedom on the other, striving to protect the people from unequal exactions, and preserve to them equal rights. It will not be questioned by any true American that exclusive privileges are opposed to the spirit of republicanism.

As we have already said, the great mass of the people of this state have, through their primary meetings, and conventions and numerous legislatures, given unmistakeable evidence of their distrust of all kinds of paper circulation, and their determination to resist any banking system which can possibly be presented; and we firmly believe that should one be presented to them for their sanction, it will be voted down. At all events, we are quite sure that the advocates of banks among us are aware that if they would succeed in establishing such institutions in our state, they must not attempt to appropriate to themselves or individuals, advantages which the masses cannot legally enjoy. If they succeed at all, it must be upon the principle of full individual responsibility and no monopoly. If they attempt any other movement, they will hear a voice of condemnation from every part of the state, which cannot be resisted.

We rejoice at the noble and patriotic ground taken relative to the measures of the compromise.—It was due alike to Illinois and to the Union that our position should be well defined on this important subject. Our people are firm and determined friends of the constitution and they had a right to expect that their chief executive officer would proclaim to the world the fidelity with which they are determined on all occasions to maintain its integrity. The governor was fully warranted in pledging the people of this state to the full support of all measures which are calculated to sustain the honor of the country against the efforts of lurking treason, whether existing at the north or south.

There are various other parts of the message to which it would afford us pleasure to call attention; especially those which relate to financial matters; but it is scarcely necessary to be more specific, as the people, with their accustomed interest in all that relates to governmental affairs, will give it a careful and thorough consideration.

We will add, in conclusion, that the message, in point of style, will compare favorably with the best class of state papers, and is alike worthy of the state, and the chief magistrate, whose able direction of the public interests has so much contributed to the general welfare.

Organization of the General Assembly.

Both houses organized yesterday. All the officers elected are democrats, who were previously nominated in caucus, well known for their worth and capacity for their respective stations.

In the house, the following gentlemen were elected:

SIDNEY BREESE, of Clinton, speaker;
ISAAC R. DILLER, of Sangamon, clerk;
WM. A. SPARKS, of Clinton, assistant;
WM. J. ALLEN, of Massac, engrossing clerk;
WM. M. OSMAN, of La Salle, assistant;
S. B. SMITH, of Sangamon, door keeper;
CHESTER CARPENTER, of Hamilton, assistant;

In the senate, the following gentlemen were chosen:

WM. SMITH, of Will, secretary;
WM. D. LATSHAW, of Coles, assistant;
A. C. DICKSON, of Morgan, engrossing clk;
JOHN S. ROBERTS, of Pike, assistant;
E. A. BEDELL, of Hancock, doorkeeper;
B. N. WYATT, of McLean, assistant.

☞ We issue the message to-day in an extra.—It will appear in our weekly on Friday.

☞ The friends of Mr. J. C. Ledlie, formerly of this city, will be happy to learn that the report of his death at Sacramento received here some time ago, was unfounded.

BAD BARGAIN.—Two men, pretending to have just returned from California, yesterday dropped into one of our jewelry stores, on Third street, and exchanged twelve ounces of brass filing for some gold watches and jewelry.—*St. Louis Rep.*

ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

The senate was called to order by Lieut. Gov. McMURTRY.

The following *pro tem.* officers were appointed: Wm. SMITH, secretary; Wm D. LATSHAW, ass't.; Mr. BEDELL, sergeant-at-arms; Mr. WYATT, ass't.

The roll being called, the following senators answered to their names: Cloud, Davis, Gillespie, Grass, Judd, Kuykendall, Matteson, Morrison, Olain, Osborn, Parker, Plato, Richmond, Rountree, Stewart, Sweat, Talcott, Wallace, Wood, Wynn.

On motion, the rules of last session were adopted for the government of the present.

Mr. Morrison offered the following resolution:

Resolved, by the senate, the house of representatives concurring herein, that the joint resolutions of the last session, concerning postage and stationery, be adopted by the present session; which was passed.

Mr. Richmond offered the following:

Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the general assembly of Illinois, That the constitution of the United States was the result of compromise, and could not have been framed without concessions made by the different states represented in the convention of 1787—and under which this confederacy of sovereign states was brought together, and consummated as an union for certain general and limited purposes; and that the federal government, as a consequence of the constitution, is one of limited powers, derived exclusively from that instrument, and in order to its preservation, all the grants of power therein contained, should be strictly construed by all the departments and agents of the general government so constituted;—and that all the concessions and compromises therein contained, should be faithfully observed and maintained by all sections of our common country; and that it is at all times dangerous and inexpedient to exercise doubtful constitutional powers, unless the necessities and exigencies of the nation should manifestly surmount questions of doubt and expediency.

Resolved, That the institution of slavery was one of the principal subjects of compromise embraced in the constitution, and as in that instrument there is no power conferred upon congress to control or to interfere with the question of slavery, or with any other domestic institution of the several states, it would appear doubtful, at least, whether any such power was intended to be conferred upon congress in regard to the territories of the Union, and that if such power was conferred, it was certainly inexpedient to exercise it, because the exercise of such power is calculated to impair the happiness of the people, and to endanger the perpetuity of the Union.

Resolved, That regarding the constitution of the United States as not conflicting with the divine law as revealed to us, we, as citizens of the American union, know no higher law than the constitution of our country—and that as members of the general assembly of Illinois, where we take an oath to support the constitution of the U. States, do not consider that we make any mental reservations touching the requirements of duty imposed by that instrument.

Therefore, be it resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the general assembly of Illinois, That all laws passed by the congress of the United States, under and in pursuance of the constitution, should be supported, upheld, and obeyed by all the citizens of this, and of every other state and territory in the Union.

Resolved, That the controversy upon the subject of slavery between the slaveholding and nonslaveholding states of the Union, and the distractions, jealousies, and destruction of mutual confidence among the several states arising therefrom, should be deprecated by every good citizen and lover of his country in the north, south, east, and west, as having the inevitable tendency of loosening the bonds of union, and threatening to prostrate the noblest fabric of civil and religious liberty that the world ever saw.

Resolved, That the system of adjustment or compromise, passed during the last session of congress, comprising the admission of California, the establishment of territorial governments for Utah and New Mexico, without the Wilmot proviso, so called—the settlement of the boundary line between Texas and New Mexico—the suppression of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and the amendment to the act of 1793, for the recovery of fugitive slaves, is eminently calculated to remove the controversy, and to restore peace, quietude, and confidence between the different sections of our beloved country, and meets with the hearty concurrence and approval of this general assembly.

Resolved, That our senators be instructed, and our representatives in the congress of the United States be requested, to use all their energies, and to employ their best abilities and influence, in resistance to any and all attempts that may be made to disturb, or to unsettle, either by repeal or modification, any of the measures embraced in that system of adjustment or compromise.

Resolved, That any resolutions passed by any previous general assembly, in conflict with the foregoing, and especially those adopted during the first session of the last general assembly, known as the Wilmot proviso resolutions of instruction, be, and the same are hereby, rescinded.

Resolved, That his excellency, the governor of this state, be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to each of our senators and representatives, with the request that a copy thereof be presented in each house of congress, that the position of Illinois, as far as it can be defined by her general assembly, may be understood by the other states of the Union.

On motion, adjourned till 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON.

The senate met and adjourned until 3 o'clock, at which hour it re-assembled.

Mr. Parker offered a joint resolution, which was laid over under the rule, for the appointment of a joint select committee to wait on the governor, and inform him of the organization of the two houses.

Mr. Morrison offered a resolution, which was laid over, requesting the governor to inform the senate of the character of the stock received by him of the State Bank, and how much has been assigned by him to the private stockholders, &c.

Mr. Sweat offered a resolution, which passed, adding to the list of committees, one on "Township Organization."

Mr. Gillespie offered a resolution, which was adopted, that the senate's morning session shall be opened with prayer by the clergy of Springfield.

Mr. Cloud offered a resolution, which was adopted, adopting the rules of the last senate, for the government of the present, until rules are adopted.

Several other unimportant resolutions were adopted, when the senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, Jan. 6.

House met at 2½ p. m., and was called to order by Mr. Maxwell. Hon. Zadoc Casey was appointed speaker *pro tem*; Isaac R. Diller, clerk *pro tem*; M. S. Kimball, assistant clerk *pro tem*; Mr. McLaughlin, door keeper, *pro tem*; S. B. Smith, assistant door-keeper *pro tem*.

The members present presented their certificates, and the oath of office was administered by Judge Trumbull, of the Supreme Court.

On motion of Mr. Murphy, the house proceeded to the election of speaker. Mr. Pickering moved that Hon. Sidney Breese be elected speaker by acclamation. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Breese on taking the chair, said: Gentlemen of the house of representatives, in assuming the high and distinguished position to which your kind partiality has called me, I cannot refrain from expressing to you my most grateful acknowledgments. Penetrated with a deep sense of its importance, I shall leave unemployed no faculty I may possess, necessary to the proper discharge of its duties; and it will be my most earnest endeavor so to act as to retain your confidence and win your approbation, and I assure you that justice and impartiality shall in all things control me. Having, under the constitution, but a few days to transact the important business of the state, it will become necessary that those rules which you may adopt for your government, shall be faithfully observed and rigidly enforced, and to this end, so far as I may be called upon to act, I shall rely most confidently upon your support. The great interests committed by a confiding people to our charge, will not, I am sure, be overlooked, but that all our acts and all our aims, will be directed to their advancement, so that we may, by wise counsels and wholesome laws, lead on our beloved state to that high destiny Providence has designed for her. You will have my cordial co-operation and support in all such measures; and now, having avowed the principles by which I shall be governed, I cannot but hope that harmony will prevail in our councils, and by our united efforts, something will be achieved for the public good.

The following officers were elected by acclamation:

Isaac R. Diller, clerk; Wm. A. Sparks, assistant clerk; W. J. Allen, enrolling and engrossing clerk, and Wm. M. Osman, assistant; S. B. Smith, was elected door-keeper, and Chester Carpenter, assistant.

The secretary of the senate announced the organization of the senate.

On motion, the clerk was directed to inform the senate that the house had organized, by the election of officers, and was ready to proceed to business.

Mr. Pickering moved a joint committee of three on the part of the house, and two on the part of the senate, to wait upon his excellency, the governor, and inform him that the two houses were organized and ready to receive any communication he might be pleased to make. Carried.

Mr. Shaw offered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, congress has no power under the constitution to interfere with, or control the domestic institutions of the several states; and whereas such states are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the constitution; and whereas all efforts of the abolitionists or others, made to induce congress to interfere with the questions of slavery, or take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and whereas all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions; therefore,

Resolved, by the house of representatives of the state of Illinois, the senate concurring herein, That the resolution passed at the last regular session of the general assembly, instructing our senators and requesting our representatives in congress to vote for attaching the "Wilmot proviso," so called, to laws organizing the territories, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Resolved, That we regard the series of laws commonly known as the "compromise measures," passed at the last session of congress, as wise and salutary, and necessary to the preservation of the Union; and that any efforts to disturb or repeal the same, will meet the decided condemnation of the people of Illinois.

Resolved, That the people of the state of Illinois, are firmly attached to the constitution of the United States; that they will preserve inviolate all its compromises; that they will faithfully carry out the acts of congress made in pursuance thereof, and that they will ever adhere to the permanent union of these states.

Resolved, That the gratitude of the people of the Union is due to Messrs. Cass, Clay, Dickinson, Webster, Foote, Douglas, Shields, and other patriotic members of congress, for their efforts in behalf of the measures of the compromise.

Mr. Ames moved to lay the preamble and resolutions upon the table.

The yeas and nays were demanded.

Those voting to lay upon the table were,

Messrs. Adams of Kane, Allan of Henry, Ames, Arms, Briggs, Bristoe, Detrich, Dyer, Emerson, Gage, Hall, Hatch, Hise, Howard, Jones, Linder, Maxwell, Miller of Carroll, Miller of Madison, Miller of Winnebago, Nixon, Norton, Persinger, Phillips, Swan and Thomas.—26.

Those voting against the resolution to lay on the table, were,

Messrs. Allen of Crawford, Baily, Barnett, Beckman, Blakely, Breese, Brewer, Burke, Coldwell, Casey, Carlin, Davis, Edwards of Sangamon, Edwards of Madison, Evans, Ferrell, Hamilton, Haynie, Hobbs, Hodges, Huston, Knapp, Linley, Little, Martin, Moore, Murphy, Patterson of St. Clair, Patterson of Warren, Pembe ton, Pickering, Pitman, Quick, Randall, Sams, Sanborn, Sibley, Singleton, Shaw, Sloan, Snyder, Thornton, Willets, Wilson, and Winters.—45.

The house refused to lay the motion upon the table.

Mr. Detrich offered the following as a substitute for the preamble and resolutions of Mr. Shaw.

WHEREAS, It is the right of citizens of the United States, whether residing in territories belonging to the United States, over which territorial governments have been extended, or in states already admitted into the Union, to govern themselves in such way as may be most agreeable to themselves, and to adopt such constitutions and pass such laws regulating their own internal affairs of territorial and state governments, as may best suit themselves, as well as to exercise all other powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution nor prohibited by it to the states; and whereas, this government is founded upon and recognizes the principle that all just power is derived from the consent of the citizens governed, whether residing in states or territories of the United States; and whereas, we believe that a joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the state of Illinois, entitled "joint resolutions instructing our senators and representatives on the subject of slavery," trenches upon the rights of citizens of the United States, to form state governments, with such internal regulations as may be most agreeable to themselves; and whereas, the doing so, in one particular, however much we may wish it could be done in that one particular, might be used as a precedent to do so in other particulars relating to the internal institutions and domestic affairs of state; therefore,

Resolved, by the house of representatives, the senate concurring herein, That the "joint resolution instructing our senators and representatives on the subject of slavery," be and is hereby rescinded.

Mr. Edwards moved to postpone the further consideration of these resolutions till Thursday next.

The question on postponement being taken, resulted as follows: Yeas 26, nays 27.

Mr. Augustus Adams offered the following as a substitute for the resolutions of Messrs. Shaw and Detrich:

Whereas, congress at its late session passed a law usually denominated the fugitive slave law, which said law contravenes, as we believe, our rights as citizens, by requiring us in certain contingencies to perform acts repugnant to our feelings, opposed to our sense of right and duty, opposed, as we believe, to the principles of christianity and the dictates of humanity, and also requires us to pay taxes not for the common or legitimate purposes of government, but for the advantage, interest or profit of individuals, and is in this respect a dangerous innovation upon the practices of this government, and also contains other arbitrary provisions, conflicting, as we believe, with the principles of freedom upon which our government is founded, as set forth in the preamble to our declaration of independence; therefore,

Resolved, The senate concurring herein, that our senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives requested to use their influence for the repeal or essential modification of the same.

Mr. Edwards moved to refer all the resolutions which have been offered upon the subject of slavery, to a committee of nine.

Mr. Linder moved to lay the resolutions upon the table. Lost—ayes 24, nays 30.

Mr. Caldwell said he hoped the resolutions would take the direction indicated by the gentleman from Sangamon, (Mr. Edwards.) He thought they were defective, and might be perfected by a committee, so as to secure the support of all who were friendly to the object indicated in the preamble and resolutions of the gentleman from Lawrence, (Mr. Shaw.)

The question being taken on the reference to a committee of nine, it was carried.

Mr Thomas offered a resolution that the rules of the house at the last session be adopted.

On motion of Mr. Pickering, a committee was appointed to wait upon the clergy of the city, and request their attendance every morning to open the house with prayer.

On motion of Mr. Ames, the resolutions of the senate, adopting the resolutions of the last session concerning postage of members, were taken up and concurred in.

House adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SEVERE STORM ON MONDAY.—The gale on Monday last was the most severe that had been felt for many years. It extended as far as Washington, South; Montreal, North; Halifax, East; and Buffalo, West—thus traversing over a space of one million square miles. In some places the gale was almost entirely wind, whilst in others it was accompanied with cold of great severity, and snow to the depth of fifteen or twenty inches.

The storm at New York, on Monday night, is represented to have been of unprecedented severity—chimneys, awning and signs were prostrated in every direction. In the upper part of the city there are scores of houses unroofed, trees uprooted, and cellars flooded, but so far, thank Providence, we have heard of no lives lost.

It is feared that we shall hear of many sad disasters at sea, for the wind was all day just in the worst quarter for vessels off the coast. There is some anxiety respecting the steamer Ohio from Havana, which was to leave there on the 19th, but she is not more than due, considering the bad weather she has doubtless encountered. The steamer Florida, Capt. Lyon, arrived on Tuesday afternoon, from Savannah. She encountered the storm in all its fury, but she breasted it nobly.

Baltimore Sun, 27th.

CLOSE TO FORTUNE.—The instances are of frequent occurrence in this country where men have almost within their very grasp the wand of dame fortune, but relinquish their hold ere they have secured a prize. An instance of this has just been related to us. A gentleman named Mr. Cassidy had several claims in a ravine, a mile and a half this side of the North Fork of Yuba, which he had worked for some time, but with little success.—Having located another claim, he transferred his old claim to Dr. Thorn. The Dr. and his party—four men—went to work about three o'clock in the afternoon, and by sundown, washed out sixty-four ounces of gold! Mr. C. had worked within two feet of the point where the treasure lay, and might be compared to the old cobbler in Irving's Alhambra, who lived all his life next door to fortune, but never could manage to get under the same roof.—*Sacramento Trans.*

A TRAGEDY.—Great sensation has been caused in the department of the Charente by the arrest of the Countess du S——, and of the Cure of the commune of St. Germain, on the charge of having poisoned the servant of the latter, in order to prevent her from revealing the adulterous connection which existed between them. The body of the servant, which the Cure had caused to be buried with great haste, was dug up, and poison discovered in it. When the Count du S——, a highly honorable man, heard of the horrible accusation against his wife, he proposed to her that they should both commit suicide, and they should make their child, aged eight, die with them. The countess consented. A pan of charcoal was lighted, and the three fastened themselves in a close room.—When, however, the father saw his son struggling in the agonies of death, his courage failed him, and he broke the window for air. Medical assistance having been promptly afforded, all three recovered. The countess and her clerical paramour were lodged in the jail of Angouleme, to await their trial for the alleged murder.—*Galignani's Mess.*

SPRINGFIELD, JANUARY 8, 1851.

☞ It will be gratifying to the great majority of our people, to learn that on the first day of the present session of our legislature, resolutions were introduced in each branch, rescinding the Wilmot proviso instructions of the last legislature.

These rescinding resolutions have not yet been definitely acted upon, but it is well ascertained that a numerous majority in each body will wipe out the error which has been the source of so much shame to our citizens, and so much embarrassment to our senators and representatives.

The resolutions offered by Mr. Richmond in the senate, and by Mr. Shaw in the house, (published in our paper of yesterday,) breathe the right spirit, and unquestionably embody the sentiment of nineteen-twentieths of the people of Illinois. We commend the doctrine therein advanced to the candid reflection of all who desire the public mind to be relieved from the exciting fears and apprehensions regarding the safety of the Union, which have grown out of the unfortunate subject of slavery.

This Union was created by compromise, and the constitution contemplates the utmost freedom on the part of each state, in the establishment of its domestic institutions. If the northern states sanction institutions odious to the south, the latter cannot complain unless they infringe the constitutional rights of the south—and *vice versa*. No northener pretends that slavery infringes the constitutional rights of the free states.

It then becomes a question whether it is better to trample the Union and the constitution in the dust, than to permit the south to enjoy its own domestic policy and municipal regulations. By the constitution, the south is entitled to efficient fugitive slave laws, and the general government is bound to pass and enforce them. Such is the compact and agreement. We may deprecate slavery as much as we please, but we cannot escape from the necessity of supporting the constitution, or placing ourselves in the attitude of nullifiers or traitors. Illinois occupies no such position. Her members of congress, with two exceptions only, have vindicated her against such a suspicion, and we believe the present legislature will show the Union and the world that our patriotic state, upon which has been reflected so much renown by the chivalry of her sons in the field, in the defence of the national honor and the national domain, is ready to do justice to every state and every section of the confederacy; and above all, to assist by its moral force, and even by its physical force, if necessary, to put down every attempt to destroy and dissolve the bonds which bind these states together.—It is to be hoped that our legislature will respond to the wishes of the people in this behalf, and relieve our young, rising, and prosperous state, from the suspicions which rest upon her.

☞ In our morning edition of yesterday's daily, several important typographical errors occurred. In our article on the governor's message, two or three passages are wholly unintelligible. The edition for last evening's mail contains the same matter *corrected*.

THE FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE IN NEW YORK.—The case of Long, the alleged fugitive slave, was brought up for trial on the 27th and postponed until the afternoon for further testimony. During the evening session, a colored man came upon the stand and testified he saw Long in New York at the time Doctor Parker swore he saw him in Virginia. The negroe, on being cross-examined, flatly contradicted himself, and his evidence was rendered worthless. The court adjourned until the 29th to allow time to execute a habeas corpus.

STATE PRISON BURNED.—The state prison of Maine, at Thomaston, took fire on the 28th, and owing to excessive cold and the scarcity of water, the flames were not subdued until after the destruction of the warden's dwelling house, the main prison and the guard room. The remaining parts were saved by throwing snow upon them.—The prisoners, ninety in number, were all removed in safety.

CONNECTICUT UNION MEETINGS.—Union meetings of a truly enthusiastic and patriotic character have been held at Bridgeport, and at New Haven. At the latter place, the speakers were Hon S. Kimberly, Hon. Ralph I. Ingersoll, Rev. Nathaniel W. Taylor, D. D., of the theological seminary connected with Yale college, Eleazer K. Foster, Charles A. Ingersoll and Jonathan Stoddard, esqs., and James F. Babcock, editor of the New Haven Palladium.

☞ Downing, the horticulturist, in a letter from England, says:

"The eyes of an infirm old woman, to whom my having come from America was mentioned, and who had two sons in the new world, brightened up with a strange joy at seeing some one from a land where her heart had evidently been of late more busy than at home. 'It was a good country,' she said; 'her sons had bought land, and were doing famous.' For a working man to own land in a country like this, where the farmers are almost all, only tenants of the few great proprietors, is to their minds something like holding a fee simple to part of paradise."

☞ We give to-day, a communication on the Central railroad. We should be glad to publish all communications on this subject; but during the session, our columns must, from necessity, be otherwise occupied.

For the Register.

THE CENTRAL RAILROAD.

The munificent grant of congress of several million acres of public land, to aid in constructing the Central Railroad, has naturally awakened bright anticipations of the future prosperity of our state. I have noticed, however, that some of our people, with that sanguine anticipation of future greatness which long ago earned for Illinois the nickname of the "Future State," are indulging in the most extravagant expectations of benefits from the grant. They take it for granted that the completion is secured of a system of railroads scarcely inferior to that of the old internal improvement system, and a multiplicity of magnificent plans for the location of the road, and its branches, &c., are the consequence. It is greatly to be feared that these extravagant anticipations will be of serious injury, by preventing that calm and judicious legislation on this subject, on which so much depends, and I propose to show, as briefly as I can, that there is no foundation for them.

I consider that, even with the help of the grant of lands by the general government, it is by no means certain that the road will be made. Efforts have been repeated from time to time to have the road made on its own merits. These have been signal failures. At least six hundred miles of road are to be made, which, with the necessary stock, buildings, &c., will not, at a very moderate estimate, cost less than twelve thousand dollars per mile, making a total cost of more than seven million dollars. This is a vast sum, and the road is but an experiment. It will doubtless succeed in the end, but it will not for some time, on account of the sparse settlement of the country through which it passes, pay much income to its makers.—How is it to be made? Will it do to calculate to any great extent on the sales of the lands as a means of making the road? Most of the lands are of little value now, and depend on the road being made for their future value. While there is any doubt whether the road will be made, no one will buy the land; and if it is known that a company has undertaken to make the road who rely on the sales of the lands as a chief means, distrust as to their success will at once arise, which will prevent purchases of their lands. It should also be borne in mind that if the road is not finished in ten years, the lands revert to the state. Another objection to such sales of lands is, that they will bring so small a price, *while the road is making*, as to make them really but little inducement towards making the road.

If these views are correct, it follows that no prudent men will undertake to make the road, unless they have the ability to pay nearly the whole cost of it in money, and that it would be very unsafe for the state to trust any set of men with this great work, unless satisfied that they can command the necessary means.

The sum required is so great, that only a combination of large capitalists can command it. Is it probable that such an association can be formed to make the road, and on what terms will they do it? A great objection is the long time which will be required to build the road and sell the lands. There is a good prospect of profit, however, to those who have the means to build the road, and *afterwards* sell the granted lands. They are as productive as any lands in the world, and the road will open to them both the lake and lower Mississippi markets, giving them access to the latter at a time of the year when all the upper rivers are closed by ice.—These advantages will at once make these lands as valuable as any in the state. This view may be considered by capitalists a sufficient inducement to undertake the work. I trust it will. But I think it may be taken for granted that, if men who can command the large sum required, do enter on the undertaking, they will not submit to any conditions which will seriously reduce the expected profit.—There is no superabundance of money in the country. Capital does not go begging. It is altogether improbable, for instance, that they will agree to pay for the lands granted; or to make a system of roads involving three lines running nearly the whole length of the state; or to make the road or a branch of it, through a region in which they would get but little public land; or that they would zig-zag the road out of its proper direction, to accommodate inconsiderable towns and villages. The most they can, in my opinion, reasonably be expected to agree to do, is to make a road from Cairo to Peru, with a continuation from Peru to Galena, and with a branch to Chicago; from a point in the road somewhere about the latitude of Vandalia or Shelbyville.

From the terms of the act of congress, as explained by Senator Douglas, this is about what congress expected would be done. And if this is done well and speedily, the state at large will have abundant reason to be satisfied. My limits forbid even a brief summary of the advantages of such a road. I will merely state a single fact, showing the opinion on this subject, of the monied operators of the great money centre of the country. Illinois bonds rose in New York from 60 to 63 cents on the dollar, immediately on the passage through congress, of the bill granting these lands. This was in consequence of the opinion entertained their, that with judicious legislation at home, so rapid would be the advance of the state in population and wealth, that we would soon become able and willing to pay the interest on our public debt. The passage of a judicious law on the subject, by the present legislature, would confirm these favorable expectations, and a further and greater advance in the price of our state stock would be the consequence.

With all the great results depending on the making of this road, how important it is that no minor considerations be suffered to jeopardize it!—Every proposed plan should be carefully examined with a view to its effect on the great object of securing the certain and speedy completion of the road; and if it seems at all likely to interfere with or embarrass this great result, it should be rejected. The present is a crisis in the affairs of our state. Marked results must be the consequence. And it depends on the present legislature whether these results shall be for good or for evil. A great responsibility rests on every member. Let us hope that every member will feel it, and constantly act under its influence. ‡

LINEN AND COTTON.—We referred some days ago to an invention said to have been successfully tested in England for converting flax by a cheap and summary process into the form of what is styled flax cotton, woven by the same machinery now used in cotton factories. It is said that samples of this fabric will be exhibited at the World's Fair.

Some of the Kentucky papers are showing an earnest desire that the account of this invention may be correct. The price of hemp being some four and a half cents, while that of raw cotton is nearly three times as much, the successful introduction of a cheap and expeditious mode of manufacturing the former material would indeed form an era in the culture of hemp in the United States.—The invention of the cotton-gin had a great deal to do with the rapid increase of the cotton crop from year to year in the southern states; and a similar result might be expected in regard to hemp and flax, particularly the former, if science and machinery could be made equally available in preparing it for manufacture. The superiority of linen over cotton fabrics to say nothing of the difference of price in the raw material—would give linen goods a superior demand if the expenses of manufacturing in both cases could be equalized. *Ex.*

PLANK ROAD TO THE IRON MOUNTAIN.—A telegraphic dispatch from Ste. Genevieve informs us, that a meeting was held there, the 3d inst., for the purpose of taking measures to construct a plank road from Ste. Genevieve to the Iron Mountain.—An excellent spirit prevailed. Thirty thousand dollars were subscribed, and the road, it is added, will be built. They have begun right, by planking down their own dollars, and this shows them to be in earnest.—*St. Louis Rep. 5th.*

ARRIVAL OF THE U. S. MAIL STEAMER OHIO AT NORFOLK IN A CRIPPLED CONDITION.—The deep anxiety which was felt in this community on Thursday, for the safety of the U. S. mail steamer Ohio, from New Orleans for New York, via Havana, and which was known to have a number of citizens of Baltimore on board, was happily relieved yesterday morning on the arrival here of the Norfolk steamer, with the Ohio's mails, and 200 of her passengers.

The Ohio put into Norfolk on Thursday, after a very perilous voyage from Havana. When about leaving the harbor of Havana, on the 19th instant, an accident happened to her machinery, which delayed her departure until the following day, and then she left with only one of her engines in perfect order. She had on board upwards of 400 passengers. The voyage was smooth and prosperous until Sunday, the 22d, at noon, when the wind freshened, and continued increasing in violence until 5 o'clock, P. M., at which hour the ship experienced the heavy gale that was felt in this quarter. Soon after the storm commenced the engine ceased working, by reason of some derangement of her machinery, and the ship broached too, with the aid of her sails, in the midst of one of the most tremendous seas ever experienced on our southern seas.

From the evening of the 22d until the morning of the 25th the noble ship was forced to lay too with such limited sail as she was able to carry. She was frequently in the trough of the sea, almost unmanageable, and in a position of great peril as well as of extreme discomfort to all on board. While in this critical situation, on the morning of the 24th, it was announced that the vessel had sprung a leak, and that the quantity of water running in had extinguished the fires under the only available boiler. This announcement, instead of creating consternation, only served to rouse the energies of the passengers, many of whom were returning Californians and were willing to risk every thing for the purpose of once more seeing their homes. They immediately organized into bands, under the charge of General Benjamin C. Howard, of Baltimore; and by their incessant labors, seconded by those of the gallant officers and crew of the ship, the water in the hold was reduced, and on the morning of the 25th steam was again raised in the boilers and the engine once more put in motion.

Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, the intrepid men in charge of the pumps did not cease their efforts until after the ship had passed Cape Henry, and the harbor of Norfolk rose to the view of the passengers, most of whom had given themselves up for lost. The extent of the leak may be imagined from the fact that with the pumps constantly working from the time it was discovered, the ship on her arrival at Norfolk had eight feet water in her hold.

The Ohio is said to be considerably damaged in her hull. Three of the immense iron braces that support her frame, have been snapped apart, and her furniture and everything that was breakable on board, is represented as having been ruined. She is in such a disabled condition that she will have to be taken into the U. S. dry dock for immediate repairs, before she can proceed to New York.—The damage she has sustained, it is supposed, cannot be repaired for less than $30,000.—*Balt. Amer.*

MISSOURI LEGISLATURE.—The committees of the senate have been, it will be seen, appointed by Lieut. Gov. Price. They are sufficiently *Bentonish* for almost any purpose. The committee on federal relations is composed of Messrs. Leslie, chairman, Miller and Ellison, (Bentonites) Winston, (whig) and White, (anti-Benton). Nothing can, of course, come out of this committee that will militate against Col. Benton's political views. A more important committee, and one to which more responsibility attaches—that of ways and means—is differently constructed: Mr. Jackson, of Howard—one of the big guns of anti-Bentonism—is made chairman, and Miller and Leslie, (Bentonites) and Crow and Chew, (whigs) members of the committee.

Mr. Allen, of St. Louis, is chairman of the committee on internal improvements, and the remainder of the committee will, it is believed, be favorable to measures of this kind.—*Republican, 5th.*

Illinois Legislature.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, Jan. 7.

Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Smith.

Mr. Richmond presented the memorial of H. H. Snow, praying relief for services in the survey of the Illinois and Michigan canal, in 1834. Laid on the table.

Mr. Stuart offered a resolution, requesting the secretary of state to furnish to the members of the senate, copies of the act of congress, granting lands and the right of way to Illinois, Mississippi, and Alabama, in aid of a railroad from Chicago to Mobile. Adopted.

Mr. Stuart offered a resolution, requesting the auditor to furnish to members of the senate, a map, showing vacant lands on the old survey of the Central railroad, from Cairo to Peru; from Peru to Chicago; from Chicago to Springfield, via Bloomington, and from Peru to Galena, embracing the lands lying on each road 30 miles wide.—Adopted.

Mr. Gillespie offered a resolution, requesting the secretary to furnish to the senate, the act of congress in relation to swamp lands.

The governor's message was received and read.

Mr. Sweat moved the message lay on the table, and 10,000 copies be printed for the use of the senate. Carried.

Mr. Morrison, on leave, introduced a bill empowering the city of Belleville to borrow $10,000, to aid in completing the Belleville turnpike. Ordered to second reading.

Mr. Morrison introduced a bill to amend Chap 4, Rev. Stat. entitled "Aliens." Ordered to second reading.

Mr. Reddick introduced a bill for the relief of the heirs of William E. Armstrong. Ordered to second reading.

The senate then took up a resolution of yesterday, calling on the governor for information relative to the State Bank stock and state indebtedness. Passed.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON.

Mr. Kuykendall, on leave, introduced a bill for the repeal of "an act to incorporate the Great Western Railroad Company," passed March 3, 1843; and, also, to amend "an act to incorporate the Great Western Railroad Company," passed Feb. 10, 1849. Ordered to a second reading. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, Jan. 7.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Dresser.

Mr. Ames presented the petition of Wm. W. Drummond for a seat upon the floor of the house, [contested election.] Referred to committee on Elections.

Mr. Thornton presented the petition of citizens of Shelby county, for a railroad from Terre Haute to Alton. Referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Patterson, of Warren, presented the petition of sundry citizens of Hancock county for relief. Referred to committee on Claims.

Mr. Moore offered a resolution that the auditor be requested to communicate to the house the number of members, if any, who have not paid over moneys which they may have received as collectors of the revenue. Adopted unanimously.

Mr. Sanborn offered resolutions to authorize the speaker to appoint a standing committee on township organization. Adopted.

Message from the governor, by Mr. Gregg, secretary of state. The message was read.

Mr. Murphy moved to lay the message upon the table, and 10,000 copies be printed for the use of the house.

Mr. Pitman moved to print 3,000 in German.

Mr. Knapp objected. The constitution prohibited printing in any other than the English language

Mr. Pickering moved to print 5,000.

Mr. Linder moved to print 15,000.

Mr. Murphy accepted 15,000 as an amendment.

The motion to print 15,000 was then advocated by Messrs. Linder and Murphy, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

Mr. Edwards offered a resolution to admit officers of state, judges of the supreme and district court, within the bar of the house. Adopted.

Mr. Murphy offered a resolution that editors of newspapers and reporters be invited to seats within the bar of the house. Adopted.

On motion, the members then proceeded to draw for seats.

House adjourned till to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

I. O. O. F.

At a regular meeting of Sangamon Lodge, No. 6, I. O. O. F., held at Odd Fellows Hall, on Tuesday evening Dec. 31st, 1850, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased the Supreme Ruler of the Union to remove from this and from the ranks of our Order, Dr. Reuben Taylor, a Brother beloved respected and esteemed, by all to whom he was known; therefore,

Resolved, That we, the brothers of this lodge, while bowing to the decree of Divine Providence, which has taken him from among us, lament with deep sorrow the early and untimely death of one whose manly and social virtues gave promise that he would become a useful man and an honorable citizen, and whose memory is endeared to us by his acts of kindness, love and fidelity.

Resolved, That we tender to the widow and family of our deceased brother our heartfelt sympathies in the hour of their desolation and affliction, and invoke for them the blessings of an all-wise God, praying also that they may derive that highest of consolations—resignation to the will of Him who doeth all things well, and whose tender mercies are over all his works.

Resolved, That in this afflicting dispensation of Divine Providence we are forcibly reminded of the fact that there is but a step betwixt us and death, and it admonishes each of us to so regulate our lives that, like our Brother who has gone before us we may meet our end in peace.

Resolved, That in his death, society has lost one of its most useful members—the profession of which he was a member, an ornament—the sick and distressed, a skilful hand and kind heart, and his family, all that is endearing in a husband and a friend.

Resolved, That as a testamonial of our regard and esteem for the character of our beloved brother, we wear the usual badge of mourning thirty days, and that our lodge be trimmed with crape for the same length of time.

Resolved, That a copy of the above be presented to the widow of our deceased brother, and that the same be published in the city papers.

W. W. PEASE, *Noble Grand.*

ISAAC LINDSAY, Secy.

RIFLE FACTORY.

ONE DOOR SOUTH OF THE AMERICAN HOUSE, Is now in full operation, rifles and pistols made to order, and warranted to do good execution from 60 to 150 yards. Having now on hand the largest and best assortment of barrels, locks and materials, ever offered in this city, and having hands constantly employed for the last 12 years, and not the first gun returned on my hand, in that time, and feel confident that I can give general satisfaction to every one, that will give me their patronage, and as I am determined not only to complete with Springfield, but with the Mississippi valley, for the cheapest and best article of workmanship, materials, durability and execution of the guns manufactured by me will do it, I ask no other recommendation than what my workmanship will do. No rifle was ever made by me without my name being stamped on the breech. The report of some persons to the contrary notwithstanding, persons going to California, Oregon, and those going at a distance will find it to their advantage to call at Cradock's.

On hand, a number of first rate rifles, double and single shot guns. Also the best rifle powder, percussion caps, lead and shot, for sale, persons buying powder of me can rely on the best quality, having a proof to try it with, particular attention paid to repairing, and at the shortest notice. I hold myself responsible for all done by self or workmen.

JOHN CRADOCK.

January 6, 1851.

FIRE INSURANCE.

THE NEW YORK PROTECTION INSURANCE COMPANY, AT ROME, N. Y.

Capital over 600,000.

JOHN STRIKER, Pres't. GEO. THOMAS, Tres.
JAS. MATESON, V. Pres't. C. JONES, JR., Sec'y.

THE UTICA INSURANCE COMPANY. AT UTICA, N. Y.

WARD HUNT, Pres't. JOHN J. FRANCIS, Treas'r.
HENRY R. HART, V. Pres. A. F. ROCKWELL, Sec'y.

THE undersigned having been appointed agent for the above named Fire Insurance Companies, is prepared to take risks, and issue policies against loss or damage by Fire on buildings and their contents or merchandize, in the city or country, at the lowest rates of other responsible companies.

All losses promptly and liberally adjusted and paid at the Springfield agency.

WM. LAVELY, Agent, Springfield, Ills.

Oct. 19, 1850.—d&wtf.

BY TELEGRAPH.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.

The Niagara reached Boston yesterday morning. Her mails will reach here this evening.

President Fillmore's message attracted more than usual attention. Every paper of note printed it.

"No popery" meetings, were less frequent in England.

Returns of board of trade will, it is said, enable the chancellor of the exchequer to make many reductions in the present tariff. An extensive system of enlistment gave weight to report that the Duke of Wellington has recommended an addition of 50,000 men to the English army.

Accounts from Australia say that Smith O'Brien had made an unsuccessful attempt to escape to California.

Louis Napoleon, it is said, is involved in debt to the amount of near 2,000,000 francs. He has application to the assembly for relief, and will, it is reported, be strongly but unsuccessfully contested.

The Emperor of Russia has, it is said, issued a proclamation to the army, thanking them for their warlike preparations, assuring them that their services will now be required.

FOREIGN MARKETS.—Flour in the early part of the week, was sold at a decline of 6d, but subsequently rallied, and is quoted at 22s for western canal; Philadelphia and Baltimore 23s to 23s 6d; Ohio 24s; canal 23s. Wheat, white western, at 6d red, 5s 4d a 5s 6d. Corn, white, 32 a 33s; yellow, 31 a 31s 6d. Corn-meal, 14s 6d a 15s 3d nominal. Pork firm.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.

The Georgia arrived to-day. She brings 550 passengers; left 400 at Havana and N. O. The Oregon arrived at Panama, with 2,000,000 in gold dust. The Georgia has 2,500,000. Republic at Panama with 2,000,000. A large robbery took place on the Isthmus, of 200,000.

The Georgia's news is three weeks later from California. She sailed from Chagres on the 25th ult., with 921 passengers. She left Havana on the 1st. Everything quiet at Havana. The new captain general is acting with great energy, in putting a stop to gambling, and other improper acts. Five or six persons left in prison for violating Spanish laws by drawing their Bowie knives and revolvers, and committitting other acts, too numerous to mention.

The Georgia left at Chagres the Crescent City, with 430 passengers, waiting for gold dust, which had not arrived. The propeller Ontario, sailed for New Orleans on the 8th, with 209 passengers.—Over $200,000 in gold dust was stolen from Howland & Aspinwall's specie train, while crossing the Isthmus. The Empire City was detained in hopes the money would be recovered.

Nothing of importance from California. The cholera had almost entirely disappeared from Sacramento City. Business had revived there, and is in a flourishing condition.

San Francisco markets have been active, but before the sailing of the Warren had been checked by the rainy season. Bread-stuffs in good demand, at high prices. Markets well supplied with provisions; slight decline, but holders firm. Gold dust in demand at 16¼.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 6.

Fitz Henry Warren, 2d assistant post master general, has been appointed temporarily to the chief contract office, in place of Maj. Hobbie, who goes to Cuba for the purpose of effecting new postal arrangements, with the authorities of that island.

CONGRESSIONAL.—Senator Butler presented the credentials of R. Barnwell Rhett, re-elected senator from South Carolina, to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Calhoun. Mr. Dayton of New Jersey, presented a petition that congress would appropriate a sum equal to what has been contributed by individuals, for the completion of the Washington monument.

A message was received from the house, with twenty-four private bills, passed by that body.—These bills were taken up, each read twice, and referred.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 6.

Little or no business doing. Wheat, no sales.—Flour, small sales at $4½ fancy $4 75. Corn 56c. Oats 56c to 58c. Whisky 23½c. Barley 85c to 90. Provisions, no sale. Sales of hemp, $100 to $105. Packing business is drawing to a close. Hogs $4 to $420.

About 100 returned Californians arrived yesterday, by the steamer St. Paul and Monongahela, bringing some $50,000 in gold dust. Weather warm, with indications of a general thaw. But little ice in the river.

JEFFERSON CITY, Jan. 4.

In the senate, the president announced the standing committees. Mr. Stewart offered a resolution to meet in the hall of the house on Thursday, 9th, for the purpose of electing a U. S. senator. The nomination of Samuel Treat to the judgeship of the St. Louis Court of Common Pleas, was confirmed.

In the house, Mr. Kennett offered a resolution approving the fugitive slave law, believing it constitutional, and instructing the senators and representatives to resist any attempt to repeal it. The house proceeded to the election of speaker *pro tem.* Kennett, anti-Benton, received 70 votes. Mr. Kelley of Holt, Benton, received 45.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.

The Crescent City arrived, bringing 400 passengers and $1,500,000 in gold dust, besides a large quantity in the hands of the passengers. The train across the Isthmus, as alluded to yesterday, was attacked by six muleteers and plundered of $20,000 in gold dust, has been recovered.

10 o'clock p. m.

Yesterday Crescent City saw a brilliant light, and on bearing down to it, found it to be some vessel on fire and burnt nearly to the waters edge. It was apparently of about 230 tons. Crescent City coursed around it but could not discover any boats.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 6

No mails south of Charleston have been received. The Richmond Reform Convention re-assembled on Saturday, and will proceed to business immediately, having now received the census returns, for want of which they adjourned.

Messrs. Bryan, of Ga., and Soule, of La., were requested by the Richmond State Rights Convention, to deliver addresses on the constitutionality of the project of excluding the northern productions.

Rev. Benj. Woford, of Spartanburg, South Carolina, has left $100,000 to build and support a state Methodist College at that place.

BOSTON, Jan. 7.

The coalition party have agreed to a division of officers. The democrats are to have Lieut. Gov., state treasurer, five councillors and senator for the short term. The free-soilers are to have the senator for the long term; secretary of state, four councillors, state auditor and sergeant-at-arms.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 7.

A report is current here that a new steamer sunk between the Bayou and N. Orleans. She was insured at New Albany for $3,000.

The steamer Creole was burnt at N. O. on the 27th inst.

SUPERIOR BOOTS.

MEMBERS of the legislature, and others visiting this city, can find an assortment of "GREENE'S" fine calf and kip BOOTS of SUPERIOR QUALITY, by calling at HICKOX & BROTHERS, No. 3, Hoffman's row.
Jan. 6.

FOR SALE OR RENT!

The commodious and wellarranged house known as the Sangamon House, one block west of the public square—is now in perfect order, and may be rented or purchased on the most reasonable terms, if application is made immediately to the subscriber at his stable, or at the City Hotel.

jan 6 1851 S. G. JONES.

STOVES! STOVES!!

JUST RECEIVED, for the fall trade, a large lot of stoves of the following patterns, viz:

36 Rector's premium cook stoves, assorted sizes,
26 Ohio " "
24 Prize " "
30 DeGroff's " "
12 Hoot's premium " "
12 Elevated ovens "
12 American Air Tight " "
12 Irving " " "
12 Imperial " " "
6 Pacific " " "
12 Reverse draft " " "
24 Queen City " "
36 Cannon coal stoves, heating, "
66 Albany Box " " "
24 Ten plate " " "
12 screen plate " " "
36 cottage parlor " " "
48 cast top and bottoms, " "

Also a large lot of (assorted sizes) brass kettles,
" extra stove hollow ware.
" stove pipe, tinware, and all copper, tin, and sheet ironware, for mills &c., promptly attended to by J. S. ROGERS.

Springfield, Oct. 22, 1850.—d&w.

CHICAGO LUMBER YARD,

Corner of Adams street and the railroad, opposite Mr. Lamb's packing house,
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

WHERE can be found a full assortment of Lumber, Shingles, Lath, Joist and Scantling, at as low rates as the same quality can be bought at Naples; adding transportation. Being a branch of Messrs. Hannah, Lay, & Co., of Chicago, we are prepared to take contracts to furnish Lumber in Springfield as cheap as it can be bought at any point on the Illinois river, with the addition of transportation.

☞ Large sales and small profits for cash.
Dec. 8.—w6m. HANNAH, LAY & CO.

Gentlemen's Furnishing Store.

M. HIRSCHFELD,

MOST respectfully calls the attention of his old customers and the public generally to his new and splendid and most Fashionable stock of Clothing (just received direct from the Eastern Markets) which is now open and ready for inspection. He challenges contradiction to the fact, that he has the best and well selected stock of clothing, ever offered for sale in this or any other market west of the mountains.—His stock consists in part among the following articles:

Coats,	Black Cassinet "
Black Frock Coats,	Blue " "
Brown " "	White Linen Pants "
Olive " "	Brown " "
Black Dress "	Vests.
Blue Black "	Black Satin Vests
Bl'k Cloth Sacks "	" Silk "
Brown " "	Fancy " "
Drab " "	Superior Linen "
Black Tweeds "	Fancy Marseilles "
Brown " "	Plain White "
Drab " "	Drawers.
Alpaca " "	Lambswool Drawers
Pants.	Brown Knit (Cotton) "
Black Cas. Pants	Bleached "
" Doe Skin "	Impe'l (Extra) "
Fancy " "	Canton Flannel "
" Cas. "	Cotton Drill "
Tweeu " "	

Also shirts, bosoms, collars, handkerchiefs, cravats, scarfs, ties, stocks, gloves, and a thousand other little "fixings," in the way of Gentlemen's furnishing articles, too numerous to mention. Suffice it to say, by calling, you will find most every article usually kept in furnishing stores in the Eastern Markets.—Call and see, south side of the public square.

Springfield, April 27, 1850. d&w

J. CLARK,

CURRIER AND LEATHER DEALER.
No. 170 Main Street, St. Louis, Mo.

ALL kinds of Leather, Tanner's Oil, and Shoemaker's Findings, constantly on hand.

Also Patent Leather, French and Philadelphia cal skins, &c. May 2 w1y

EVERY BODY'S MILL.

WE will pay the market price for wheat, corn, barrels, &c., at our mill, or at Every Body's Store. Custom work done as usual. LEWIS & ADAMS.

July, 13, 1850.—d&w—ly.

BODARK SPROUTS FOR SALE.

I WILL inform the people of Sangamon, and the adjoining counties, that I have for sale the best lot of Bodarc Sprouts, that has ever been offered to the people in this country, which I will sell at eight dollars per thousand. The sprouts has two years growth in my nursery. All persons wishing to purchase will please call on the subscriber, the sooner the better, at Lower Lick creek six miles south of Springfield, near the St. Louis road; or if it is more convenient call E. J. Taylor, who is my agent, one door east of Tinsley's. JOHN HOOPER.

Nov. 14, 1850.—w3m*.

WHOLESALE

CLOTHING WARE-HOUSE,

No. 118 Main treet,
ST. LOUIS, MO.
AND

No. 113 Broadway New York,

MARTIN & BROTHER.

DEALERS IN READY MADE CLOTHING will find it greatly to their advantage to call at the above establishments and look through our stocks, before purchasing. We promise to show them the largest and most complete assortment in the east or west, and will sell at *lower prices* than any other House. Terms Liberal. aug. 22.—ly.

Dr. H. Wohlgamuth,

GERMAN PHYSICIAN.

HAVING returned to Springfield with the intention to remain permanently, offers his professional services to the citizens of Springfield and surrounding country. He may be found at the dwelling of Mr. John Wolgamot, or at his office, a few doors south of the old Post Office.

☞ Family medicines, of his own preparation, for sale at his office,—warranted *purely vegetable*.

Springfield, April 16, 1850. d&wly.

FRANKLIN HOUSE.

STATE STREET, ALTON, ILLINOIS.

E. BLISS—PROPRIETOR, (formerly of the American House, Springfield, Ill.,) would respectfully inform the citizens of Alton and vicinity, and the traveling community, that he has taken the above named House, which has recently undergone a thorough repair, and an extensive addition, and that he has furnished it entirely with new furniture, suitable for the wants and comforts of his guests. The House is situated in the most central part of the city, and is now open for the accommodation of boarders and transient custom.

The proprietor flatters himself from past experience in Hotel keeping, and from a strict personal attention to the wants and comfort of his guests, that he will be enabled to accommodate all who call upon him in a satisfactory manner.

There is also in connection with the house a large and commodious stable, where travelers' horses will receive proper attention; also, carriages, buggies, and saddle horses, furnished at the shortest notice.

Alton, Oct. 19, 1850.—ly.

FALL AND WINTER CLOTHING.

A LARGE AND SPLENDID VARIETY!!

E. R. WILEY,

ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE SQUARE,

HAS now on hand a very large assortment of fine to extra fine seasonable

CLOTHING.

Just manufactured, and much of which will compare, in point of style and finish with the best custom work got up in this city.

As economy is the order of the day, my motto is

Quick Trade and Small Profits, for Cash.

COATS—Fine cloth dress, frock and sack coats, for $10 and upwards.

PANTS—An endless variety of fancy cassimeres, black French Doe Skin, Sattinetts, &c., of all prices.

VESTS.—Plain and figured styles, and all qualities, from $1 and upwards.

THE MERCHANT TAILORING DEPARTMENT is in the hands of those who thoroughly understand it.

All the above articles of *warranted* workmanship.

Shirts, linen bosom, fancy styles, flannel, lambs wool, and many other articles for gentlemens' wear.

Those who have cash to lay out for clothing may save from 10 to 20 per cent. by calling at this establishment. dec. 10.—dwtf.

HARDWARE.—Just received a very good assortment of Hardware, consisting of—

Log Chains,	Strap Hinges,	Ames' Shovels,
Buck saws,	Plane Bits,	do Spades,
Hand do	Coffee Mills,	Curry Combs,
Back do	Waffle Irons,	Horse Cards,
Saw Files,	Brick Trowels,	do Brushes,
Molasses Gates,	Mincing Knives,	Butchers' Knives,
Sand Paper,	Knives & Forks,	Nails of all sizes.

For sale by JOHNSTON & BRIGHAM.
sept. 17.

J. J. RICHARDS,

LUMBER AND COMMISSION MERCHANT,
And Agent for the Sangamon and Morgan R. R. Company.
NAPLES, ILLINOIS.

Lumber, Shingles and Lath, for sale—delivered railroad free of expense. Orders solicited.

Naples, November 1, 1850.

M. M. DILL,

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
PARIS, EDGAR CO., ILLINOIS.

OFFERS his professional services to the citizens of the fourth and eighth judicial circuits of the state of Illinois.

June 10, 1850.—y*

DR. R. TAYLOR,

HAVING become a resident of this city, has taken an office in the building formerly occupied by the mayor, first door south of J. Bunn's store, where he may be found at all times, except when absent on professional business. To those of the citizens of Springfield and its vicinity, who shall need medical aid, his services are respectfully tendered.

Springfield, June 13, 1850.—d1y.

Plows! Plows!

THE undersigned has invented an improved plow for which a patent is pending. The plow is known as

THE DOUBLE CURVED STRAIGHT STEEL MOLD BOARD PLOW.

It combines more advantages than can be enumerated here—as can be seen by any other plow now in use. It runs lighter, turns a better furrow, and scours in any soil or land that it may be driven. Damaged mold boards can be replaced cheap, and has been used this season entirely without repairs. Any one can have the right to use and manufacture these plows, and the undersigned will sell the right to any one who will manufacture them, on reasonable terms. Persons desiring to purchase the right to manufacture in any county, will please call on the undersigned, at Hillsboro, and they will be accommodated. Any one wishing to purchase a plow, can be supplied at any time by calling on the undersigned, at Hillsboro, or by addressing him through the mail.

JOHN SIBLEY.

Springfield, January 10th, 1850.

"We certify that we have recently used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Sibley, and we believe that they are in all respects superior to any other plows which we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

WILLIAM P. LAWSON,
WILLIAM PAPPENHAUSEN,
L. S. SHORT,
JOHN W. CRAIG,
JOHN W. RICE,
CHAIN HANN,
JOHN MCCLURE,
DELLINGER.

Springfield, Jan. 10th, 1850.—tf. (Journal copy)

THE GREAT PENNSYLVANIA REMEDY FOR CONSUMPTION.

THE CELEBRATED BLOOD ROOT EXPECTORANT POWDERS, is composed of herbs and vegetables of the most healing nature, and is the only medicine in the United States that ever cured a confirmed Consumption, was entirely not surprised. This valuable medicine has introduced itself to the notice of the public by its own merits, and is now considered by all who have used it, as the most valuable CONSUMPTIVE POWDER, and has been used in all parts of the United States, in hospitals and private families with universal success. The ingredients and directions for using are contained in a pamphlet, which can be had gratis. ☞ THE GREAT PENNSYLVANIA REMEDY is so certain that the framers of this valuable will guarantee a cure in every case, where the directions are strictly complied with, and where the disease is not too far advanced, and where a cure is not impossible, they will refund the money.

For sale by the sole proprietor, JAMES HOWARD, Philadelphia, and by all the principal druggists throughout the United States.

DISTEMPER.

Hidebound, Pleurisy, Inflammation, Lockjaw, Rheumatism, Sore Throat, Distemper of the eyes, colds, and all fevers. In fevers of all great diseases, PAULVORTHIS POWDERS are the best medicine for FOOTFOUNDING, and practice and use will prove them to be the best medicine for all the above and other diseases of animals and are a certain cure. We would give a large quantity of certificates, but we prefer that every farmer should try them for himself, and we are willing to risk and stand the test.

Prepared and sold only by CONRAD & DILLES, Wholesale Druggists, Cincinnati, Ohio.

For sale by

BOOTT—Men's, calf, kip, grain, brush and shoes, thread, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

LATEST AND FASHIONABLE.—Gentlemen's Calf, Kip and Grain Boots and Shoes for gentlemen, just the article to wear, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

600 Pieces best white calicoes, 12½ and 25c per yard, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

To Jewellers & Watch Makers.

THE trade will please to find Cooper steel, by gauge, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR. Also, a variety of cast steel, for watchmakers' use, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR. Also, a variety of cast steel, for watchmakers' use, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

CARPETING, RUGS AND MATTS.—Fine stock, low prices, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

CROCUS.—Fine assorted. Unsurpassed, about 3 acres assorted, put up and to be had by the dozen or less when if you want any of it.

W. YANVELY.

CANALLERS, GUARDS, OLIVE PLATED SPURS, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR. Also, a variety of steel, plated, brass, buckles, waists, straps, bits, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR. Also, a variety of steel, plated, brass, buckles, waists, straps, bits, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

LIME—ROCK CREEK LIME.—The undersigned has on hand a large supply of Rock Creek Lime, for which he will deliver orders at short notice. Also, a few Cement Fountain Ornamental Statuary, with moss and grotto work, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

Also, a few Cement Fountain Ornamental Statuary, with moss and grotto work, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

Also, a few Cement Fountain Ornamental Statuary, with moss and grotto work, for sale by HURST & TAYLOR.

CURE FOR ASTHMA.

THE ONLY SURE REMEDY IN THE WORLD.

DR. SCHENCK'S newly discovered pulmonic syrup, the name of the French Chemists, which will cure the most distressing case of Asthma in from one to three days, and will do it in a shorter time than any other preparation now sold. Did it so invariably disease.

Dr. Schenck's Pulmonic Syrup, the name of the French Chemists, and